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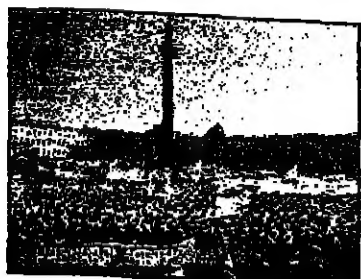
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Russian protests fizzle



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Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat greet one another yesterday at the Erez crossing. (AP)

Summit set for October 15 at Wye Plantation Clinton: Imperative for deal to be reached

By HILLEL KUTTLER, DANNA HARMAN, and news agencies

President Bill Clinton pledged yesterday to dedicate as much of his time as needed to achieve an accord when he hosts a summit with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat next week.

Clinton told reporters he is "encouraged" by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's just-concluded visit to the region, and believes that if Netanyahu and Arafat bring the same sense of cooperation that they have recently exhibited, a deal can be reached.

Clinton also said "it is imperative" for an agreement to be wrapped up so negotiations can commence on the final-status issues that, under the Oslo Accords, are to be completed next May.

White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said later that the talks would be held at the Wye River Conference Center in eastern Maryland. However, he said it has not yet been determined whether

Clinton would travel there for the summit or would open the discussions at a White House event and then leave the parties to their deliberations.

Meanwhile, Palestinian sources said the US had asked Jordan's King Hussein to join next week's

the US.

In an Oval Office photo opportunity with visiting Hungarian Premier Viktor Orban, Clinton was asked how long he expects the summit to last, and jokingly replied: "I'd be happy if it were over in an hour. But I'm prepared to invest as much time as it takes."

"I asked them to block out a couple of days to come back, because I think it's very important that we try to get over these last humps and get into the last stage of negotiations," Clinton said.

"We need to get to final-status talks, because keep in mind, the whole thing is supposed to be wrapped up by May of next year. And the closer we get to that date without having been at least in the final-status talks - where the parties have a relaxed opportunity, without being against a timetable, to discuss these big issues of the future of the Middle East - the closer we get to that date without that happening, it's going to be more difficult."

Clinton said he hopes that the two leaders will "be talking 12 hours a day" to reach a deal.

Albright said after her meeting

with Netanyahu and Arafat at the Erez crossing yesterday that the "new spirit" and "sense of urgency" she felt has given her confidence that a deal can actually be sealed in the US.

She said that "significant and



US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. (Brian Henderson)

substantial progress" had been made during her two days of meetings.

See CLINTON, Page 2

Shekel plunges a further 2.1%

By AMOTZ ASA-EL

The shekel continued to slip yesterday amid accelerated global market mayhem, shedding another 2.1 percent of its dollar value as it settled at a new all-time low of NIS 4.096 to the dollar by the end of the trading day.

During the unofficial interbank trading which followed yesterday's holiday-shortened business day, the shekel continued to depreciate, crossing the NIS 4.1-to-the-dollar barrier.

Against the Bank of Israel's basket of leading currencies, the shekel lost 2.64%, hitting a record NIS 4.5084, which still leaves it 13.5% within the limits of the central bank's trading band.

However, the shekel registered a much steeper decline against the Japanese yen, whose appreciation in currency markets elsewhere was translated in Tel Aviv into an 8.03% appreciation of NIS 3.2614 to 100 yen.

The shekel also parted with 3.12% of its deutsche mark value and 2.21% of its pound sterling exchange rate.

Analysts were reluctant to

attribute the market's treatment of the shekel to a particular player, but generally agreed that the accelerated demand for dollars is coming primarily from the business sector, "most probably people who took dollar loans, most likely institutions and private investors," according to Dan Galai, joint managing director of Sigma PCM, a portfolio selection and management company.

The shekel's 6.8% plunge so far this month has raised speculation and debate over whether the Bank of Israel should intervene in trading to stem its depreciation.

"The Bank of Israel has to sell dollars," said Galai, "but it should do so sensibly and cautiously, not making public pronouncements beforehand" - a recommendation shared by chief Bank Hapoalim economist Pithya Bar-Shavit.

However, speaking from Washington where he is attending the International Monetary Fund's annual meeting, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel hinted such a measure has yet to be considered.

See SHEKEL, Page 15

Tea cup in a storm

BACKGROUND

By AMOTZ ASA-EL

The shekel's recent travails - while admittedly unusual, even intriguing - still pale in comparison with previous currency mayhem which our economy experienced until the mid-1980s. This is primarily for two reasons:

First, unlike the collapse which followed the 1977 liberalization of the lira for instance, this storm is part of a global affair and is but a marginal and, in some ways, even antithetical detail in a broad picture which neither begins nor ends in Israeli deeds or misdeeds.

Secondly, past devaluations were done by regulators who then waited to see how traders' maneuvers would undo their effect.

Now the shekel is reprecised by the markets, which then wait to see how the central bank responds.

See TEACUP, Page 15

Police thwart mass ship-jumping

By DAVID RUDGE

Haifa police yesterday thwarted what appears to have been one of the biggest attempts to enter the country illegally since the British Mandate period.

The new arrivals, however, were not Jews seeking to make a new life in the country, but visa-less residents of the former Soviet Union.

As many as 150 passengers, who had been reported to have left the Ukrainian-registered *Dimtiri Chestekovitz* at previous ports of call, were found hiding on board the vessel.

Police believe they had intended to wait until dark before jumping ship and trying to

smuggle themselves into the country.

The *Dimtiri Chestekovitz* visits Haifa twice a month from its home port of Odessa, sometimes bringing new immigrants. In the past, passengers with entry visas have left the ship, ostensibly to visit holy sites and tourist attractions, and have not returned. It is believed they have remained illegally to work in the country, some of them as prostitutes.

Some 500 people were registered as having boarded the vessel at Odessa, but officers told immigration officials at Haifa, where the ship docked yesterday, that there were only 350 passengers left aboard.

The remaining 150 were reported to have disembarked at Cyprus and other ports en route. To the immigration officials, the story seemed "somewhat fishy" to say the least.

"Our suspicions were aroused and I called for reinforcements

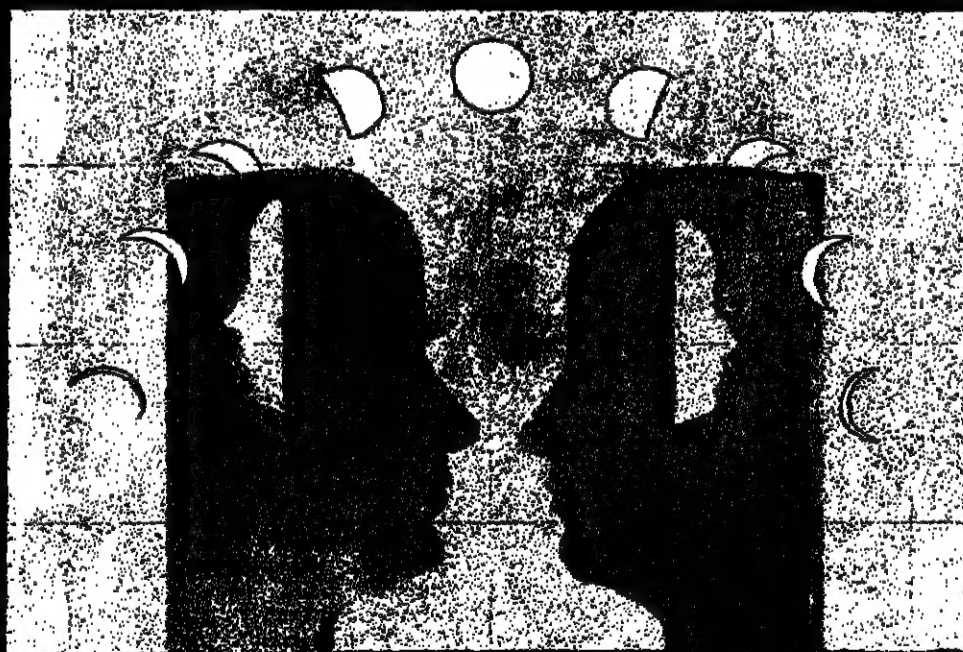
so that we could thoroughly search the ship with the aid of teams from the crew of the vessel," said Supt. Orly Malka, head of passport control at Haifa Port. The trawling operation netted all of the "missing passengers."

"We found some of them in the cabins, hiding in wardrobes and under the bunks. Some were discovered in storage lockers in the engine room and others places on the ship, where passengers would not normally be expected to be," said Malka.

The missing passengers were questioned and returned to their cabins and a guard was placed around the vessel to ensure none of them would be able to disembark before the ship sails today.

"We also refused entry to Israel of another 52 of the passengers, in addition to the 150 who were found hiding aboard the vessel, because they did not have visas," said Malka.

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NEWS

in brief

Jerusalem firebombing suspects remanded

Four youths suspected of throwing firebombs at the Beit Orot Yeshiva on the Mount of Olives earlier this week were remanded yesterday for seven days by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court. The minors, from east Jerusalem, were arrested yesterday following a third firebombing incident on Tuesday night. Four firebombs were thrown into the yeshiva's yard on Sunday night, damaging the exterior wall.

Amy Klein

Defense Ministry asks arms makers to merge

Acknowledging that the world financial crisis has plagued the country's defense industry, Defense Ministry Director-General Ilan Biran called upon private Israeli and foreign companies to cooperate in joint ventures to avoid costly duplication in research and development and overseas sales.

Biran acknowledged that convincing the country's traditionally competitive arms manufacturers to cooperate or even merge would be difficult, but said the move is necessary since the global recession has lowered demand for their products. Defense industry revenues are expected to plunge from \$2.5 billion in 1997 to a projected \$1.5b. in 1998, Biran said.

AP

Thousands expected at Jerusalem March

Thousands of people are expected to participate in today's Jerusalem March. Twelve floats, orchestras, and choirs will participate. The march leaves from the railroad station on Hebron Road at 3 p.m., and will proceed to King George Street, then up Jaffa Road to City Hall. It will return by way of the Cinematheque. The spectator stand is located in Paris Square. Traffic will be closed in the center of town from 1:30 p.m. to approximately 6:30 p.m. Public transportation is free from 1 p.m.

Amy Klein

Weizman's Turkey trip still on

President Ezer Weizman is going ahead with his plans to attend Turkey's 75th anniversary celebrations at the end of the month, despite the current tension between Syria and Turkey. "Why shouldn't he attend? All the other heads of state invited by President [Suleyman] Demirel will be there," said Weizman's bureau chief, Arye Shumer.

Israel has recently taken pains to dissociate itself from any connection with Ankara's preparations for a possible conflict with Damascus over tensions about the PKK.

Barisheva Tsur

PM: Ariel will remain 'integral part of Israel'

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and news agencies

Hours after his meeting with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged yesterday that Ariel will remain an integral part of Israel in any final-status talks.

While presiding over a ceremony at which Ariel, with some 15,000 residents, was declared a city, Netanyahu said: "We are building and will continue to build. I came today to tell you that Ariel will remain a thriving city, construction will continue."

He assured Mayor Ron Nahman that the local college would become a university next year. "We are not building new settle-

ments, but we are enabling the natural growth of the existing settlements to go on," Netanyahu said. "I would like to see Ariel double in size."

Nahman said there are plans to expand the city to 60,000 and to develop a center of information and technology.

Peace Now held a demonstration across from Ariel while the ceremony was taking place.

A Peace Now statement said that "Netanyahu is spitting in Madeleine Albright's face. He is trying his best to sabotage the peace process."

But Netanyahu's communications director David Bar-Ilan said the ceremony was scheduled long ago, was not intended to send a political message, "and was certainly not timed to coincide with Mrs. Albright's visit here."

CLINTON

Continued from Page 1

"With this substantial progress having now been achieved and some understandings reached, I believe we are now in a far better position to finalize all the issues at the Washington summit," she said.

"Their body language has been fairly positive. On the other hand, I wasn't born yesterday, and there are still many hard problems out there that the leaders themselves are very much aware of."

After the talks, Albright left for Brussels and London to grapple with the unrest in Kosovo.

Arafat invited Netanyahu to a lamb and fish lunch he hosted for Albright at a Palestinian guest house after the talks. Netanyahu smoked a cigar after the meal, and later told Israeli the food Arafat served was kosher. Arafat also gave the prime minister a box of Cuban cigars as a gift.

The American goal during this trip was to nail down those areas on which there is agreement, so as to leave as few potential stumbling blocks as possible to be dealt with at the summit.

Three areas of agreement were pinned down: the opening of the industrial park at Karni, the setting up of a joint committee to battle incitement, and the launching of several "people-to-people" initiatives.

In relation to matters still under contention — such as security assurances, the changing of the Palestinian Covenant, and the third redeployment — the issues agreed

upon are minor.

Several Palestinian officials went so far as to say that "nothing had really changed" during Albright's mission. Arafat's only comment to the press after the meeting was that Albright "has done a lot to push the peace process forward."

At a press conference in Jerusalem, meanwhile, Netanyahu spoke in subdued tones of the progress made, making it clear that only "modest steps" had been taken and that much hard work is ahead. "Are the Palestinians ready to fulfill their commitments, to revoke the PLO charter, to fight terror, to fulfill completely their part of the agreement under the principle of reciprocity?" he asked. "If the answer is yes, there will be an agreement. Period."

"I can say that we climbed the foothills, but we still have a very large mountain to scale in Washington," he said, adding, "None of the central issues has been concluded between us and the Palestinians."

But a top Israeli security source said that any public agreement is important in itself, and that the sides would now find it easier to resolve other matters.

US special envoy Dennis Ross and Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk are to remain in the region for a few more days to work on several of these other matters. In addition, CIA Director George Tenet, who arrived earlier this week, is working with both sides on the security working paper — the acceptance of which is of cardinal importance to the closing of a deal.

Erekat, Naveh teams to tackle security, safe passage issues

By MOHAMMED NAJIB and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat is scheduled to meet with Israeli cabinet secretary Dan Naveh and US envoy Dennis Ross in Jerusalem today to discuss issues concerning the interim phase: safe passage, the release of Palestinian prisoners, and other issues raised in yesterday's meeting, including the second and third withdrawal and other security related issues.

PLC Speaker Ahmed Qurei said yesterday he is optimistic and believes progress was made in yesterday's meeting of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Prime Minister

Binyamin Netanyahu, and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"This progress, however, depends on what the final conclusions are," he said.

Qurei said Israel had not refused any of the Palestinian demands and that "all the issues were being discussed." Any outstanding issues would be solved before the Washington summit takes place, he said.

PA Minister of Planning Nabil Shaath told reporters that the only thing the sides agreed upon was to meet in Washington next week.

Yesterday afternoon Arafat arrived in Cairo to meet with President Hosni Mubarak and update him. Arafat praised

Albright, declaring "she has done a lot to push the peace process forward."

Late last night Arafat traveled to Moscow, where he is to meet with President Boris Yeltsin and other officials. Palestinian sources said Arafat will ask the Russians to act as a second sponsor and play an active role in the peace process.

Prior to yesterday's meeting Arafat told a group of UN officials in Gaza that the Palestinians had accepted some time ago the US proposal of a 13% withdrawal from the West Bank in exchange for Palestinian security commitments.

"Until now, the Israeli side did not give any sign of approval for

the American initiative, but in spite of that we are continuing our negotiations today," he said.

As the summit approaches relatives of terrorist victims said they are concerned that Netanyahu will not stand firmly on demands to extradite Palestinian terrorists.

A delegation of 15 to 20 members of the Terrorist Victims Association plan to protest outside the Wye River Conference Center outside Washington throughout the summit.

TVA chairman Meir Emdor said the protest is mainly directed at Netanyahu for failing to stand up to his promises of delaying any progress in peace negotiations until the Palestinians complied with Israel's extradition demands.

"We are concerned that those who murdered and maimed our loved ones will be set free," he said. Several of the association's members said they are disappointed that Albright had failed to meet with them.

Joyce Boim, whose son David was killed in a terrorist attack near Beit El, said that although one of her son's murderers is incarcerated in Jericho, it would not be long before the Palestinians free him. As negotiations continue and a second withdrawal seems inevitable, Boim said, families feel that if Israel fails to stand firmly on the issue of extradition the momentum will be lost and extradition will be "shelved."

Wye: A negotiator's getaway

BACKGROUND

By NELLE KATZLER

WASHINGTON — To the better known locales of Oslo, Cairo, Paris, and Washington will be added another site in the five-year history of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations: eastern Maryland.

While only an hour's drive from the nation's capital, the Wye River Conference Center promises Binyamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat and their staffs a respite from the predictably dry, confining, businesslike meeting rooms typical of hotels and government buildings. What the center, sometimes referred to in shorthand as the Wye Plantation, offers is a chance for conferees to literally let down their hair and "walk in the woods."

That was exactly the point of the American decision three years ago to shift the Israeli-Syrian negotiations from downtown Washington to the 1,100-acre wooded resort in Queenstown, Maryland, just across the Chesapeake Bay from Annapolis.

Back then, the parties shed their jackets and often sat around more comfortably in jeans and leisure shirts. They spoke informally during meals.

Then-chief Israeli negotiator Itamar Rabinovich later recalled the experience as invaluable for getting to know the Syrians — at least the way they looked and how they spoke.

With Israel and the Palestinian Authority, that is not as crucial this time around. The figurative ice does not need to be broken. Netanyahu and Arafat, and their chief advisers, have met before. As the Americans have stated over the past week, the two leaders are becoming more serious about closing a deal.

But while the stakes are high, the administration has been careful not to overdo the symbolism. It pointedly rejected convening the ultimate talks on a redeployment deal to another Maryland location — Camp David — so as to avoid direct parallels with the 1978 Israeli-Egyptian negotiations that led to their peace treaty.

The conference center is located in a secluded former estate on the flat terrain typical of Maryland's Eastern Shore. There are woods, sports facilities, and first-rate dining. The staff is attentive and discreet. The talks will likely be held at the River House, a modern facility whose main meeting room features a roaring fireplace.

While Netanyahu and Arafat may forgo riding bicycles together or going shopping in the nearby outlet malls, they will at least be spending many hours together talking, strolling, passing the pretzels — and, it is hoped, hammering out an accord.



Oslo, Five Years Later

There was little accord among the speakers who debated the future of the Oslo Accords yesterday before a crowd of 300 at Jerusalem's Rebecca Crown Auditorium. From left are Prof. Ron Pundak and MK Rafi Eul (Labor), MK Michael Kleiner (Geshet) and former MK Elyakim Haetzni. Kleiner said he would try to prevent another redeployment; Eul said Labor would support it. The debate was sponsored by Pro Israel and 'The Jerusalem Post,' on behalf of the Ariel Center for Policy Research.

(Text: Shi Davidi; photo: Kevin Unger)

NRP again warns PM against withdrawal

By SARAH HONIG

MK Hanan Porat (National Religious Party), chairman of the Knesset Law Committee, yesterday warned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that if a further redeployment deal is worked out, deliberations on the bill to disband the Knesset will be sped up.

The bill, which passed in a preliminary reading last summer, was referred to Porat's committee, thereby conferring upon him considerable discretionary power in pushing it or killing it.

Recognizing Porat's power, Netanyahu conferred with him to see if the bill could be slowed down. Porat had hinted that if no redeployment is agreed upon, he and like-minded MKs would not

vote for early elections.

However, yesterday, as a redeployment agreement seemed more likely, Porat charged that "Netanyahu is single-handedly handing [Yasser] Arafat a Palestinian state on a silver platter."

Such a state will constitute a very real danger to Israel's ability to survive. If this occurs, if our prime minister persists in a plan to hand over such a large chunk of territory to the Arabs, then clearly there will be no choice but to see that he loses office. There will be no alternative but to bring this government down."

MK Shmuryahu Ben-Tzur, the relatively dovish NRP Knesset faction chairman, yesterday submitted a list of demands to Netanyahu on behalf of the faction. The paramount demand is

that he start a candid discussion of the negotiations in the cabinet and that this be done before he leaves for his Washington summit.

Thus the ministers will define the mandate with which Netanyahu leaves and supply him with clear guidelines from which he will not be allowed to veer.

These guidelines, according to the NRP's list of demands, ought to include an unequivocal undertaking to annex all territory under Israel's control when the Palestinian Authority declares an independent state.

No deal must be struck, the NRP stipulates, unless all murderers now walking free in PA-controlled territory are extradited and the Palestinian Covenant is amended to Israel's satisfaction.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, how-

ever, said yesterday that "the far right has no reason to be nervous. Nothing will come out of the summit here nor the summit in the US... because Netanyahu has no intention of yielding anything."

There were hardly any reactions to the summit from Labor. Party chairman Ehud Barak continued his intensive round of visits to Sephardi rabbis, presumably to make amends for his recent criticism of the pilgrimages by politicians to kabbalist Rabbi Yitzhak Kadourie and other rabbinical figures.

Thus Barak spent Tuesday night at the succa of Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef. Yesterday, he visited Rabbi Reuven Elbaz, also linked to Shas. Finally Barak called on Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron.

Agreement on opening Karni crossing

By DANNA HARMAN

The agreement to open the industrial park at Karni crossing — announced yesterday by US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright — is perhaps the most significant of the issues concluded this week between the Palestinians and the Israelis.

"This park will change the lives of many people in Gaza in a major way," Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said yesterday. "We already have 11 companies who have committed themselves to setting up

business there, and from the very start, some 3,000 to 4,000 Palestinians will find work there."

The park, situated on the Israel-Gaza border and designated as "closure-proof," is expected to employ 20,000 Palestinians within five years. The businesses to be stationed in Karni range from textiles and food processing to major autoparts companies. The investors are local — Israeli and Palestinian — as well as international.

Negotiations on the opening of the park have been going on for almost a year and

were close to being concluded several times. The sticking points were said to involve security concerns.

US Secretary of Commerce William Daley will visit the Karni site next week in the course of his participation in the economic conference.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's spokesman, Aviv Bushinsky, stressed that although agreement on the opening of the park had been reached, the opening would not take place until the issues still under negotiation were resolved.

Ethiopian spiritual leader dies

Kes Menashe to be buried today in Yavneh

The spiritual leader of the Ethiopian Jewish community, Kes Menashe Zemro, died yesterday at the age of 92, likely of natural causes, in his home in the South.

"He was the chief rabbi of the Ethiopian Jewish community in both Ethiopia and Israel," said MK Adisu Massala (Labor), also an Ethiopian immigrant. "He was this generation's great leader."

Kes Menashe, as he was known to his followers, was one of 14,000 Ethiopian Jews who immigrated in 1991 in a dramatic airlift that brought the majority of the community to Israel.

In Ethiopia, a kes served as the community's religious leader.

But when the Ethiopian Jewish community came to Israel, the authority of the kes was not recognized by the governing religious bodies. Kes

Menashe was not permitted to officiate at religious ceremonies like weddings or funerals but continued to act as a spiritual leader, encouraging community members to bear the trials of immigration with patience and tolerance, Massala said.

Although there are around 70 Ethiopian Jewish spiritual leaders living in Israel, most are elderly and no longer possess the authority they had in Ethiopia.

Massala said there is no one to take Kes Menashe's place.

"A person like him doesn't exist anymore," Massala said. "It looks like he was the last."

Kes Menashe was to be buried today in Yavneh. He is survived by several children and grandchildren, Massala said.

(AP)

To Eli Yaffe
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Turkey issues Syria an ultimatum

By SELCAN HACAOLU

ANKARA (AP) — The Turkish parliament yesterday issued an ultimatum to Syria, demanding Damascus eject Turkish Kurdish rebels from its territory or "face the consequences."

"Our wish is that the Syrian administration understands the seriousness of the situation, takes necessary measures, and ends the presence of terror hideouts. If this is not done, it will unavoidably have to face the consequences," the 550-member parliament said in an announcement signed by all its nine parties.

Although it did not say what the consequences would be, the announcement raised the stakes in Turkey's face-off with Syria.

Earlier, Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz accused Damascus of waging an indirect war against Turkey by supporting the rebels and told parliament the "time has come to end the dark games of Syria."

Syria denies sheltering rebels, and Turkey's harsh rhetoric has triggered fears of a regional conflict.

"We are not trying to spark a war," Yilmaz told parliament. "But we are determined if necessary to ask the parliament's consent for possible use of force."

Yilmaz said the cabinet decided earlier in the day to take all necessary dissuasive measures against Syria if it maintains its support of Kurdish rebels, fighting for autonomy within Turkey.

"Through its support for the terrorists, Syria is waging an indirect war against Turkey," he said.

Yilmaz's address to parliament came a day after Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak held talks with Turkish President Suleyman Demirel in Ankara to seek a peaceful solution.

"Mubarak has inspired us to give a last chance to diplomacy," Yilmaz said. "The steps which Syria will be taking carry great importance in ending the tension."

He said Ankara is demanding the extradition of the rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan to Turkey and an end to Syria's financial and logistics support.

Turkey also contends the rebels run training camps in the Syrian controlled-Bekaa Valley of Lebanon.

Mubarak, who was given a dossier containing documents allegedly verifying Syria's backing for the rebels, flew directly to Damascus from Ankara on Tuesday and met with Syrian

President Hafez Assad for the second time in a week.

"We are pursuing quiet diplomacy and hope that statements would not be sharp but would try to ease tension," Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa told reporters yesterday.

"Goodwill must prevail in the relations between the two countries,"

Reports in Egypt on Tuesday said Mubarak was trying to work out a mechanism for the two sides to meet and resolve the dispute.

The US and Russia, along with most countries of the Middle East, have urged the two countries to reach a peaceful settlement.

Yilmaz did not rule out direct talks with Damascus but said "even if there will be a diplomatic dialogue, it must be limited to the rebel activities alone."

Turkey and Syria are also at loggerheads over an ambitious Turkish irrigation project in southeastern Turkey, which Damascus fears will reduce the water flow of Euphrates River crossing into Syria, and over the Turkish border province of Hatay which Ankara accuses Syria of having designs on.

Syria is also uneasy about the growing ties between Israel and Turkey.

Defense Minister Ismet Sezgin said yesterday that a war with Syria would last only one day. The daily Yeniyuzyl said Turkey would stage pinpoint air raids on rebel camps, if Syria does not change its attitude.

The Anatolia news agency reported that some tanks and armed personnel carriers were transferred to the province of Sanliurfa bordering Syria.

Douglas Davis adds from London:

Turkey's generals have decided in principle to "go all the way" and take military action against Syria if it fails to sever its links with the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), a confidential NATO assessment warns member states.

The assessment, leaked to the London-based daily *Al-Kuds* al-Arabi yesterday, notes Turkey will almost certainly give the order to attack if political pressure and diplomatic mediation do not secure Syria's full compliance with Turkey's demands.

This attack, warns the NATO assessment, could lead to all-out military conflict between the two countries.

[two weeks ago] with the head of the military exports department was for discussion on the subject of industrial cooperation and upgrading tanks," he added.

"For this purpose, he met in Ankara with the deputy defense minister, the commander of the Turkish army's ground forces and the person responsible for procurements," Benayahu said.

At this point, the newsletter quotes Israeli sources saying Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz to reduce the number of troops on the Golan Heights as a signal to Syria that Israel had no hostile intentions.

"The Israelis think the tension between the Syrians and the Turks will evaporate," the newsletter says. "Turkey's army is bigger and stronger than Syria's, and Syria cannot afford to get entangled in conflict with Turkey for fear of Israeli trouble-making," the newsletter said.

The Turks are using unprecedentedly high-profile military moves to underscore their demands that Syria halt terrorist operations against Turkey by the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK).

Turkish officials have explained these activities as preparations for a forthcoming NATO exercise, but, according to *Foreign Report*, some of the moves have nothing to do with the NATO exercise.

Mechanized units, it says, have been observed taking over border patrols, while logistic and medical units, moving in small convoys, have been taking up positions in the border area.

"Our sources say the movements of the Sixth Corps of the Second Army are not linked to NATO but to Syria. The army has cancelled leave and recalled personnel to bases of the Second Army and plans are being made to evacuate the families of Turkish diplomats from Damascus."

"So far," the newsletter notes, "the only perceptible Syrian countermove has been to move 130mm artillery away from the border."

The visit of the director-general of the Defense Ministry to Turkey

Settlers lay cornerstone at Tel Rumeida

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Despite US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's call for a time-out on unilateral action, Jewish residents of Hebron attended a cornerstone-laying ceremony yesterday for a new neighborhood in Tel Rumeida.

At the ceremony, Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom said the National Religious Party would continue to support strengthening and building the city and called on the government to take a similar stand.

Yahalom said his party would not accept the government decision to replace only seven caravans with permanent structures, but that it would dedicate itself to ensuring the Jewish community would be able to build whatever was necessary.

"Since the murder of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anani it is our responsibility and the government's to ensure that the community is strengthened," he said.

At the same time, residents of the Avraham Avinu Quarter celebrated completion of the first stage of construction of the six-flat Beit Nahum building.

Meanwhile, thousands flocked to Hebron yesterday to pray at the Machpela Cave, attend a hassidic song festival and show support for the city's Jewish community.

Buses and private vehicles caused traffic jams in and around Kiryat Arba and on the road leading to the Machpela Cave, amid a strong presence of IDF forces, Border Police and police.

A leaflet issued by Hamas Tuesday called for intensified attacks on IDF soldiers and security forces, but only one incident marked yesterday's events: A bus was stoned after it made a wrong



Transportation Minister Shaul Yahalom lays the cornerstone for a new Jewish neighborhood in Tel Rumeida yesterday and promises the National Religious Party's full support for Hebron's Jewish community. (AP)

turn at the Harsina Junction on its way to the Machpela Cave. Palestinian Police at the site escorted the bus until it reached the correct route.

IDF Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz said yesterday the closure on Judea, Samaria and Gaza would continue until after Succot when the situation would be reassessed.

Mofaz spoke to reporters after discussing the security situation with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, OC Central Command Maj. Gen. Moshe Ya'alon and other high-ranking IDF officers at the Gush Etzion Brigade headquarters.

Mofaz said the warnings were general and that the current threats of Hamas terrorist attacks should

not frighten the public. He added that the security forces are doing everything possible to prevent attacks and have recently uncovered a number of terrorist cells, weapon stockpiles and explosives.

Yahalom said terrorist activity was concentrated mainly in the Hebron area and in Nablus, where terrorists left Palestinian-controlled areas to carry out shooting attacks

directed mainly at security forces before retreating to the PA controlled areas.

The defense minister toured Bethlehem and the Gush Etzion area to get a first-hand impression of security arrangements and even had time to pray at Rachel's Tomb, which is often the scene of violent clashes between Palestinians and IDF troops.

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NEWS

in brief

Group petitions against Shabbat work ruling

Am Hofshi, a civil rights group, yesterday petitioned the High Court of Justice to reverse the decision by Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi making violations of the labor law banning Jews from Shabbat work punishable by a NIS 5,000 fine. The decision, which the petitioners state was taken following pressure by the religious parties, makes such violations subject to administrative ruling, rather than prosecutable under the normal rules of evidence in a court of law.

Irim

Man remanded in hit-and-run

Nahum Hassan, 22, of Kiryat Bialik, was remanded yesterday in Haifa Magistrate's Court for four days in the hit-and-run killing of five-year-old Alexander Robert Shlichstein. The boy was injured fatally while crossing a street in Kiryat Yarn Sunday evening.

The police said Hassan managed to brake before hitting the boy, stopped the car, saw the child lying injured on the road, then backed up and drove off.

According to the police, Hassan was driving his employer's car, and after the accident he and his employer tried to cover his tracks by removing a directional light from another car and installing it in place of the one smashed in the accident.

Hassan's driver's license had been suspended since 1996.

Irim

Israelis warned not to visit Quito, Ecuador

The Foreign Ministry warned Israelis yesterday to stay away from Quito, capital of Ecuador, because of the danger of an eruption of Pichincha, a volcano near the city.

Ya'acov Paran, Israel's ambassador in Quito, said that if the volcano erupts, he and his staff will leave the embassy and move out of town until the danger passes.

Irim

Albright asked to help with MIAs

Miriam and Yona Baumei, whose American-born son Zachary has been missing in action since July 1982, passed along a letter to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright asking for her help in efforts to uncover the fate of the Israeli MIAs. A spokesman for the US Embassy said the letter had been given to Albright.

"We believe there is a chance some of the MIAs are still alive, but above all we want closure. All the major players in the Near East know exactly where the bodies are supposedly buried," they wrote in the letter, asking that the graves — thought to be in Syria — be exhumed and the bodies examined.

Danna Harman

Call for joint memorial for Rabin, Kahane

A flier distributed on the Golan Heights this week called for a joint memorial day for prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and Rabbi Meir Kahane, who was killed on the same day, nine years earlier, in the US.

Michael Ben-Horin, who distributed the fliers, said Kahane, a former MK, was elected to a public office and was murdered in cold blood.

"If we want unity among the Jewish people, if we want all Jews to mark the day of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, we must set a joint memorial day for the two political assassination victims," said the Golan resident and former Kach activist.

Golan residents distanced themselves from the fliers, and Avi Zeira, head of the Golan Settlements Committee, said Ben-Horin does not represent them.

Irim

By BAT SHEVA TSUR, AMY KLEIN, and news agencies

The car of MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) was torched outside his home in Mevasseret Zion early yesterday morning. The car was completely destroyed.

Cohen said he believes the arson was the work of a new Jewish underground group and that it was designed to stop his efforts to have the shrine around Baruch Goldstein's grave in Kiryat Arba dismantled.

Prime Minister Binyamin

Netanyahu condemned the attack and said the police would give priority to apprehending the perpetrators.

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak also condemned the attack, saying it is reminiscent of the type of violence which preceded Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. He called on the government to take firm action against extremists.

Senior police officials believe that Kach activists set fire to the car because of Cohen's High Court petition over Goldstein's memorial. The High Court postponed until

after Succot the implementation of IDF's decision to dismantle the memorial, in response to a petition submitted by Goldstein's parents.

Former Kach activist Noam Federman denied involvement in the incident, and claimed that Cohen himself set the fire "to influence the court."

Cohen and other Meretz MKs held Kach responsible, saying the group has threatened to hurt members of the Left if Goldstein's grave is touched.

"I am very concerned about the attack against MKs, because this

act endangers the existence of a society capable of conducting a legitimate discourse," Netanyahu said in a statement released by his office.

Police Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk said the incident signifies a "stepping up" of attacks against public officials.

"This is a serious incident which probably had to do with Cohen's [parliamentary] actions, which makes the incident even more serious," Wilk said.

Though security was increased around Cohen's house yesterday,

the police do not plan on providing him with full-time protection. Wilk said it is the General Security Service's responsibility to protect individuals.

"Only a small group of people are protected by the GSS, and MKs are not included in this group," Wilk said.

Meanwhile, Justice Ya'acov Kedmi yesterday issued a temporary injunction ordering the IDF to refrain from dismantling the memorial site around Goldstein's grave until petitions on the issue are heard.

Faithful denied access to Mount; scuffle with haredim

By AMY KLEIN

Haredim scuffled with the Temple Mount Faithful group yesterday at the Western Wall, as the group attempted to march up to the Temple Mount to lay a cornerstone for the Third Temple. Police prevented the group of about 50 from entering the Mugrabi Gate.

"The Temple Mount Faithful is bringing a message to the Jewish people and to the enemies of Israel," said Gershon Salomon, leader of the group. "Mount Moriah is for the Jewish people and we must begin to build the Temple today."

A dozen haredim gathered around Salomon and his group — some of whose members carried replicas of instruments used in the Temple — and taunted them.

"Fool, leave this place!" A rabbi from a Givat Shaul yeshiva shouted.

"A majority of the Orthodox people don't support this group," said a yeshiva student. "You can't walk on the holy place of the Temple Mount. Only after the Messiah comes can the Temple be built," he said.

The Temple Mount Faithful believe that Jews can enter the site in order to rebuild the Temple, because it was originally built by impure people, said the organization's director, Ze'ev Bar-Tov.

"We cannot walk on the section where the Holy of Holies was located — but we know where that is," he said.

After they were turned away from the Temple Mount, the Faithful walked to the Silwan Pool, where the *Sinhat Beit Hashoeva* (Feast of Water Drawing) took place during Temple times. The 10 chapters of Psalms recited during that ceremony



Some 50 Temple Mount Faithful activists, led by Gershon Salomon (center), march up to the Mugrabi Gate yesterday to the Temple Mount. A scuffle broke out between them and a group of haredim, who said the Mount is out of bounds to Jews. (Kevin Unger)

ny were read aloud, while some drew water from the pool to pour over the cornerstone.

The Temple Mount Faithful regularly try to ascend the Temple Mount on holidays to pray there and are routinely blocked by

police. This is the eighth year they have brought the cornerstone. A flatbed truck carried the 4.5 ton stone.

"I am not tired of this," said Salomon. "We will not stop the struggle until the flag of Israel

waves over the Temple Mount," Salomon said.

A number of Christian women visiting with the Feast of Tabernacles annual convention accompanied the group. Jean Mabry, from Tennessee, said she

doesn't know if she supports the Temple Mount Faithful's cause.

"I don't know if God has told them to rebuild the Temple, or if they are ahead of their time," she said. "Maybe they are a forerunner of things to come."

Ex-GSS officer rejects Raviv 'conspiracy theory'

By DAVID RUDGE

Former GSS officer Hezi Kalo, who was in charge of the service's unit responsible for running Avishai Raviv as an agent among Jewish extremists, yesterday rejected categorically the "conspiracy theory" surrounding Raviv's alleged activities.

"These rumors [of a conspiracy] are entirely baseless," said Kalo, who noted that the matter had been examined thoroughly by the Shamgar Commission. "This matter is absolute nonsense and I think that the Jewish people should know unequivocally that there was no conspiracy and there was no encouragement of a conspiracy."

Furthermore, he stressed that all information regarding Raviv and the GSS had been given to the Shamgar Commission and nothing had been withheld.

Kalo said Raviv was not in the circle of brothers Yigal and Hagai Amir which knew about their secret plans, and he did not have any concrete information about the intention to murder prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

In an interview on Israel Radio's *Another Matter* program yesterday morning, he said that Raviv's contribution to the incitement against Rabin at the time was "like a drop in the ocean."

"I think there has been a great deal of exaggeration regarding Raviv's part in the overall incitement that took place. The wave and scope of the incitement was huge," Kalo said.

Kalo revealed that Raviv had been run as an agent in ultra-extremist Jewish circles for eight years and had brought his operators hundreds of reports of immense intelligence impor-

tance. As a result of Raviv's reports, many potential criminal acts had been thwarted. These included attacks on Palestinians and Jewish left-wingers and Islamic holy sites, Kalo said.

He said the GSS was aware of problems in the behavior of Raviv, although it did not know of some of his activities that were unacceptable. If these had been known beforehand, steps would have been taken to restrain Raviv. Kalo maintained that because of these problems, all steps had been taken to monitor Raviv and he had undergone various tests, including a polygraph, to examine his trustworthiness.

Raviv's behavioral problems had created a dilemma for the GSS. Nevertheless, it was felt that the importance of his information outweighed the difficulties that he created, Kalo said.

Agency: 110,000 Russians may immigrate annually

MOSCOW (AP) — Up to 110,000 Russian Jews may emigrate to Israel each year, almost twice the current number, a Jewish Agency official was quoted as saying yesterday.

Felix Dektor, press secretary of the Moscow branch of the agency, told the Interfax news agency that Russian Jews had shown more interest in emigrating since the end of August. Russia's latest economic crisis broke that month, when the government devalued the ruble and defaulted on its loans.

"People wishing to hear advice have been forming a line outside the agency's gate over the last weeks, something we have not witnessed before," Dektor was quoted as saying. He said that the number of Russians who had signed up for Hebrew-language courses had doubled.

Interfax did not say whether Dektor attributed the increase to an increase in economic insecurity or Jewish fears of increased antisemitism.

After the initial rush to emigrate in the early 1990s, some 50,000-60,000 Russians were moving to Israel each year before the crisis, Dektor said.

PM's adviser: Cancel Generali award

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Prime Minister's Adviser on Diaspora Affairs Bobby Brown last night called to scrap a plan to award Assicurazioni Generali a special prize next week for the company's contribution to the country's economy.

The Trieste-based insurer is to receive the prize alongside the CEOs of dozens of major international companies at the Prime Minister's Jubilee Business Summit.

However, Brown said he is angered by Generali's failure to comply with Israeli demands to publish the names of at least 100,000 Jews insured by the company who were killed in the Holocaust. A fortnight ago, Brown wrote to Generali, Italy's largest insurer, asking it to release the names it sent on a computer disc to Yad Vashem for internal research purposes only. Brown

has yet to receive a reply.

The awards are being distributed to companies that have invested substantial sums here, or who the selection committee feels have contributed to the country in some other significant way. In 1997 Generali completed the purchase of Migdal, Israel's largest insurer, for some \$330 million.

"It is with regret that I have to ask you to reconsider giving a jubilee award to Generali," Brown told the committee, explaining that Generali's failure to pay out on tens, if not hundreds, of thousands of policies has caused "suffering, sorrow, and financial stress to many victims who took out policies, and also their inheritors."

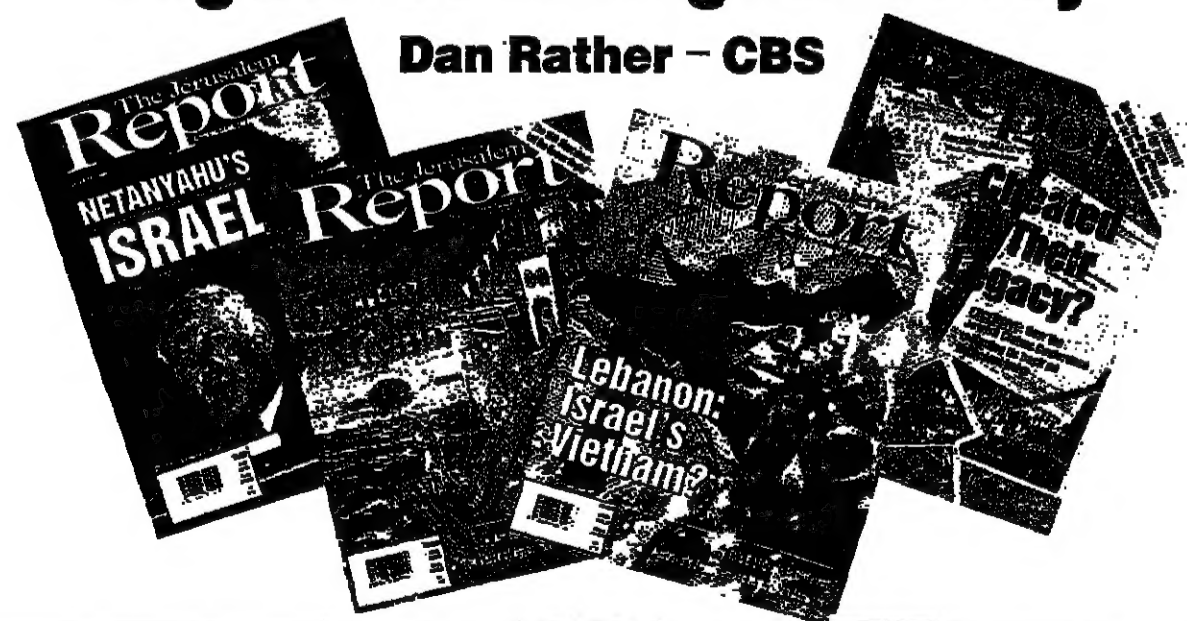
The call not to grant the award was first made some two months ago by MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher) who has been fighting Generali over the issue for the last two years.

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Priestly blessing

In a crowd of men holding lulavim, a man raises a cellular phone as the priestly blessing is recited at the Western Wall yesterday. Under heavy police guard some 30,000 worshippers gathered in Jerusalem yesterday for the service, held twice a year. (Kevin Unger)

Israeli firm: Head injury drug shows promise

A new drug based on a synthetic analogue of marijuana shows promising results in treating people with severe head injuries, the Pharmos Corp. said yesterday. It said in a statement that trials with 67 patients showed that the drug, dexanabinol, eased intracranial pressure, reduced mortality by 26 percent, and enabled a higher percentage of patients to resume a normal life.

"These study results are promising and open the door to a

Phase III study in the US and Europe next year," chairman and CEO Haim Aviv said in a statement. "No drug is currently approved to treat severe head trauma, the leading cause of death among children and young adults in the US," the company said.

The potential market for dexanabinol is between \$500 million and \$1 billion, depending on which conditions it is eventually approved for, Aviv said.

"There is a very large unmet need," Aviv said. "In the US, 370,000 patients a year are hospitalized for severe head injuries. Worldwide it's at least twice that."

Aviv said Pharmos now hopes to complete talks with one of several major US and European pharmaceutical companies on an agreement to finance the next stage of trials in exchange for rights to market dexanabinol. "Our strategy is to partner with a

larger group," Aviv said. "We have been in discussions with a number of companies and we're waiting for completion of Phase II."

He estimated the Phase III study, involving trials with 700-900 patients in the US and Europe, would take 18-24 months to complete at a cost of \$15 million-\$20 million.

"It will take at least two years and possibly three years for [US Food and Drug Administration] approval," Aviv said. (Reuters)

Report: Bin Laden has nuclear weapons

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — Osama bin Laden, chief suspect in the August 7 bombings of the US embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam has acquired tactical nuclear weapons from the former Soviet Islamic republics of Central Asia, according to Asian diplomats.

The unnamed diplomats, quoted by the London-based, Saudi-owned daily *Al-Hayar*, said bin Laden had built up a network of influential contacts in the Central Asian republics, as well as in Ukraine.

The paper did not elaborate on the diplomats' claims. Bin Laden, a Saudi renegade and Islamic extremist who commands a multimillion-dollar fortune, is based in Afghanistan and protected by the Taliban.

He is regarded as the master-

mind of a slew of international terrorist atrocities and the paymaster of an army of some 3,000 followers who do his bidding. This includes participating in his jihad against "Jews and Crusaders."

In another development, the paper quoted Taliban deputy leader Wakeel Ahmad Mutawakkil as saying that the US had initiated "contacts" to explain their missile strikes against targets in Afghanistan and Sudan following the embassy bombings.

Speaking at a press conference in Abu Dhabi on Monday night, Mutawakkil said the Americans "contacted us to explain certain matters. They contacted us to inform us that the recent missile attacks were directed against certain bases and not against Afghanistan."

He insisted, however, that bin Laden would not be handed over

to any third party.

On the continuing tensions with Iran, Mutawakkil revealed that his movement is holding more than 40 Iranians in detention "to prove to the world that they [the Iranians] are meddling in our internal affairs." Some of the detained Iranians, he said, are military officers, while others are truck drivers who had been "running guns" to the anti-Taliban opposition.

Tensions between the Taliban and Iran escalated after Taliban officials admitted killing eight Iranian diplomats and an Iranian journalist in Mazar-al-Sharif last August.

In addition, Iran alleges that the Taliban massacred Afghan Shi'ites, abused human rights, and attacked other Iranians in Afghanistan.

Jordan accuses Syria of 'insult' over 1973 war allegations

AMMAN (Reuters) — Jordan has denounced accusations by Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Tlas that it held up Arab military support for Damascus in the Yom Kippur War.

Information Minister Nasser Joudeh said televised comments by Tlas, in which he said King Hussein initially advised Saudi Arabia against sending forces across Jordan to reinforce Syrian troops, were offensive and untrue.

"We do not understand why these insults were made against Jordan," Joudeh was quoted by the official news agency Petra as saying on Tuesday.

Joudeh said the Jordanian cabinet condemned the "dubious" statement, which he said was made

while Jordan is working to prevent a row between Syria and Turkey from escalating into conflict.

Tlas, speaking 25 years after the 1973 war, said Hussein had warned Saudi Arabia that its forces would be vulnerable to Israeli air strikes if they crossed Jordan.

His comments were broadcast by Syrian television this week and repeated on Tuesday, the anniversary of the outbreak of hostilities.

"Tlas was regrettably reported to make untrue statements about Jordan preventing the Saudi army from reaching the battlefield," Joudeh said.

Joudeh said Jordan had fully supported the Saudi forces when they eventually crossed Jordan on their

way to and from the fighting.

Jordan sent forces to the Golan Heights to support Syria after it launched a joint attack with Egypt against Israel. But it did not open up a third front.

Earlier this year palace officials denied a British television report that Hussein secretly flew to Israel in 1973 to warn it of the planned joint Syrian and Egyptian attack.

Relations between Syria and Jordan have been strained by Jordan's peace treaty with Israel. Jordan's accusations that Damascus-based groups have been infiltrating into its territory, and Jordan's growing military ties with Turkey.

Lawyers for US teen murder suspect appeal Supreme Court

By BAT SHEVA TSUR and news agencies

Lawyers for a Maryland teenage murder suspect have appealed to the Supreme Court to prevent the implementation of the Jerusalem District Court decision to allow his extradition to the US.

The teenager is wanted for the grisly murder of another youth in Maryland a year ago.

Jerusalem District Court Judge Moshe Ravid last month ruled that, although the youth is an Israeli citizen because he was born to an Israeli father, he can be extradited because he has never had real ties to this country. According to Israeli law, extradition is not applicable for Israeli citizens who committed a crime abroad and the youth's lawyers had argued that he could therefore not be sent back to the US.

The district court gave the teen's lawyers 30 days to appeal the sentence. The appeal, which was lodged with the court Sunday, is due to be heard next Wednesday.

The teenager, whose name cannot be mentioned because he was a minor when the crime was committed, was charged by the Maryland authorities with the murder and dismemberment of Alfredo Tello in September 1997. Shortly after Tello's torso was discovered in a vacant lot near the Montgomery County home of the suspect's parents, the teenager fled to Israel.

Another teenager charged in the murder, committed suicide in a Maryland prison in April, days before his trial was scheduled to begin.

The prolonged extradition hearing led to a strain in relations between Israel and the US.

The youth's attorneys said they are appealing on the basis that a person cannot be a citizen with regard to one law but not be protected by all of Israel's laws.

They also said that protection against extradition was a basic right and that the precedent-setting ruling of the district court was not reasonable.

University students poised to strike over fees

By MARIE ROCHESTER

With less than two weeks to go until the fall semester begins, the country's university students are threatening to strike unless their demand for a 20 percent tuition cut is met.

Talks between the National

Union of Israeli Students and the Education Ministry started four months ago. According to ministry spokesman Benny Shukrun, a few weeks ago the minister proposed setting up a committee to look into the fees and the students seemed satisfied with this proposal.

But the Finance Ministry

refused to take part in the talks, saying a committee had already been established to examine university fees.

The Maltz Committee, which included representatives from the Education and Finance ministries, the universities and the student union, two years ago set the tuition

for the following five years.

Gil Bar-Noy, head of the students' negotiating team, said the agreement reached was unfair and needs to be renegotiated.

"Instead of studying, we have to work," he said. "The average monthly expenditure for a student is NIS 3,900."

5% plan would make US Jewish education a birthright

By SHI DAVID

To make Jewish education every US Jew's birthright, a Chicago businessman is suggesting that all American Jews leave 5 percent of their estates to Jewish education endowment funds.

George Hanus, vice chairman of the Jewish Federation of Chicago and chairman of the Ida Crown Jewish Academy, says ensuring a Jewish education is the only way to stop the growing assimilation rate of US Jews.

Hanus, who is in Israel on a Succot vacation with his family, calls his idea "Operation Jewish Education: The 5% Answer," which is based on the talmudic-era communal *kehilla* (community) tax, collected to fund children's education.

The creation of endowment funds for Jewish education will lower tuition costs, improve school quality, and ensure that the Jewish heritage is passed on to more kids, he said.

With the support of a strong majority of rabbis from all persuasions in Chicago, each of the city's day schools established an endowment fund in September, as did the federation. Schools have since raised \$2 million toward the goal of \$300 million, which Hanus said would fund Jewish day schools in the city forever.

Hanus believes a \$35 billion endowment fund would fund all the Jewish day schools in the US perpetually.

Currently, only 14% of the one million Jewish children in the US attend a Jewish day school, whose tuition costs range between \$6,000 to \$10,000 per year.

"What we have to do is make Jewish education available as a birthright," said Hanus, who is also chairman of the National Jewish Day School Scholarship Committee, the group promoting the 5% plan. "The Jewish leadership cannot be content with a system that accommodates only 14%

of our kids. We have an obligation to our kids... We're talking about everybody contributing to the greater community."

Hanus says the Jewish day-school system in the US, which is funded through tuition payment and donations, is on the verge of bankruptcy. Parents end up paying for budget shortfalls and the high tuition cost is beyond the means of most families, leading to more Jewish kids in the public school system.

"I'm not an educator, I'm a businessman," said Hanus, the father of four. "But I see, as can every day school leader in the country, that we're on the verge of bankruptcy. We can't pay our teachers enough and the barrier of entry is inaccessible to most people who aren't religious or very wealthy."

The 5% plan solves these problems, said Hanus, because the endowment funds' interest payments will create a new source of revenue for Jewish day schools and, if the plan works, eventually become their main source of revenue.

Donations can be left to the day school of choice and with instructions on how to it is to be spent. An endowment fund covering general donations will also be established whose money will be divided among schools according to enrollment.

If the plan is implemented nationally, Hanus expects the increased accessibility to Jewish education to curb assimilation and reduce the inter-marriage ratio. About 64% of Jews not in day schools marry outside the religion, said Hanus.

"If we get tuition down to zero, 50% of our kids would be in Jewish day schools and inter-marriage and assimilation rates would be reversed," said Hanus.

Bobby Brown, the adviser to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu on Diaspora affairs said the government isn't likely to get involved with the 5% plan.

"but we do welcome any granting of resources toward Jewish education. I do honestly believe that young Jews everywhere deserve a Jewish education, not as a gift or privilege, but as a basic inheritance. The surest guarantee of a strong Jewish identity is a Jewish education. And we are in favor of any program that promotes that."

Brown added that, in the 1999 budget proposal, \$5 million are allocated to Jewish education in the Diaspora.

Most of the money will be used for a program starting in 2000 called Birthright, which will aim to guarantee every Jewish child an Israeli experience. An inter-ministerial committee is to decide how to best use the remaining funding.

"The State of Israel has always involved itself with the physical safety of Jews abroad. Now we feel the spiritual connection to Judaism is in danger. We still believe that every Jew belongs in Israel, but we don't want to win that argument by default. No Jewish education is a handicap that no Jew deserves."

Hanus is asking American-Jewish leaders to make this a country-wide issue, but he has no plans to expand his efforts outside the US yet. He will speak to anyone interested in his plan.

In Los Angeles and Cleveland, Jewish federations have shown little interest in the plan. The Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles is taking a wait-and-see attitude, while the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland believes solely focusing on education is short-sighted.

Hanus is undeterred. If a better idea comes along he will support it, but until then he plans to work "as long as it takes, but as quickly as possible."

"If this movement fizzles out, you've lost nothing," said Hanus. "But if it works, you have witnessed something to change the course of Jewish history."

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Blaming Lewinsky

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit to the Middle East this week shows renewed American interest in our region. But since Bill Clinton is too busy with other matters to survey US Middle East policy, let's do it for him.

Instead of Monica Lewinsky distracting the White House from its Middle East policy, she may be distracting the Middle East from really looking at US policy.

US strategy in recent years has been to keep Iraq from again becoming a threat, to persuade Iran to moderate its behavior, to fight international terrorism, and to ensure the success of the Arab-Israeli peace process – first and foremost between Israel and the Palestinians.

Shifts in US tactics on these matters predate the current scandal.

• Iraq: There has been an extremely important change in the American position on this issue but it was caused, not by Clinton's failure to behave with any sense or decency, but by his failure to sustain the anti-Iraq coalition. The US debacle came last January, when it had to back down from threats to punish Iraq for stopping inspections of suspected arms sites.

Despite an agreement with the UN which ended that crisis, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is demanding that sanctions against him be dropped and apparently intends to prevent any further inspections. The US has retreated and dug in further back. It has tacitly accepted an end to inspections but will use Iraq's intransigence on this point to fortify a tough stand on maintaining sanctions.

This is a distasteful concession but perhaps a necessary one.

If the US is not going to get tough with Iraq and if it cannot depend on allies to support punishment, possibly there is no choice but to put the emphasis on sanctions rather than inspections. Iraq is not going to be able to build weapons of mass destruction under such conditions anyway. The blame goes not to the Washington scandal but to French President Jacques Chirac or Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

• Iran: The year started with great promise for US-Iran détente but then things slowed down. Iranian President Muhammad Khatami had done either as much as he wanted or as much as he could toward easing relations with Washington. The White House made clear that it would not really enforce congressional legislation for sanctions against companies dealing with Iran.

Then Iran launched a new long-range missile and announced that it was working on bigger versions.

Recently, there has been some diplomatic motion. There was talk of a US-Iran meeting during the UN session, but Khatami backed out, nervous no doubt about the reaction of hardliners at home. He did, however, make progress on another front. By dropping official government support for the

assassination of writer (and British citizen) Salman Rushdie, Iran normalized relations with Britain and set the stage for great improvements in its links with Europe in general.

Short of unilateral US concessions – made without a change in Iran's support for terror-

ism and its crash program to develop weapons of mass destruction – there will apparently be no breakthrough. Yet there are still possibilities for progress. Any blame goes not to the Washington scandal but to Iranian hardliners.

• International terrorism: Attacks on US embassies in Tanzania and Kenya brought a retaliatory US bombing attack on targets in Sudan and Afghanistan. Yet this was the kind of isolated, relatively ineffective response that has characterized US policy on terrorism for decades.

Depending on how one wants to look at it, the US cannot deal better with this challenge because: (a) the use of terrorism by small, secretive, and mobile groups is inherently hard for a state to counter or (b) the US lacks the willpower and readiness to use the force and resources needed for an effective deterrent. Either way, the shortcoming is not due to the Washington scandal.

• Israel-Palestinian peace process: It is rather farcical that last November Albright gave Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu an ultimatum on relatively minor points which the US has been unable to implement. US relations with the Palestinian Authority have developed similarly.

The more the US intervenes in the negotiating process, the harder it becomes to reach an agreement. Why should either side give up anything without first spending months trying to get Washington to pressure the other side into concessions or even give a big free present for some little compromise?

Moreover, this mediation shifts the emphasis from things like avoiding violence or making peace to ensuring that one's rival gets criticized by the superpower. Put the blame not on the Washington scandal but on ... well, you know who.

The Region



Barry Rubin

By RICHARD C. PADOCK

It was the middle of the night when Alexander Kuzminykh, a 19-year-old sailor, attacked a sentry aboard the nuclear submarine Vopr and killed him with a chisel. Grabbing the guard's AK-47 automatic rifle, the sailor then killed seven other crew members and locked himself in a torpedo bay.

For 20 hours, the disturbed teenager held control of the submarine at a naval base near Murmansk last month. He repeatedly threatened to set the warship on fire and blow it up, creating the potential for what one scientist called a "floating Chernobyl." In the end, Kuzminykh ignored the appeals of his mother and killed himself. But his act of desperation sent a shiver of fear through scientists and anti-nuclear activists already worried about Russia's deteriorating ability, at a time of economic upheaval, to maintain a sufficient level of security at hundreds of nuclear facilities, both military and civilian.

With the breakup of the Soviet Union seven years ago, Russia inherited a vast nuclear empire. Today, its nuclear inventory includes an estimated 10,240 warheads, more than 500 vessels, 29 power plants and hundreds of storage sites for fissile material. Many are in remote and potentially vulnerable areas across Russia's 11 time zones.

Embarrassed Russian officials were quick to discount the nuclear danger of last month's incident: "The submarine and the people (in the vicinity) were absolutely safe," declared Sergei A. Anufriyev, chief spokesman for the Russian navy's Northern Fleet.

But with the reduced manpower and deterioration of its underfunded military, Russia is relying increasingly on its nuclear weapons as a deterrent to war. This summer, Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin cited the "importance" of the nation's nuclear capability and defended the readiness of its nuclear corps.

"Nuclear forces are some of the most important factors ensuring the security of our country," the president said in televised remarks. "The fact that reports appear here and there in the media that we have got weaker on the nuclear front – first of all, they are seriously mistaken, and second, they do not help the state."

In 1994, the US Senate ratified the START I treaty with Russia, which calls for reducing the number of US and Russian nuclear warheads to 6,000 for each nation by 2001. Since 1992, the US has spent more than \$1.6 billion to help Russia upgrade its nuclear facilities in hopes of preventing a catastrophic accident or seizure of nuclear materials by terrorists.

Efforts to reduce the nuclear threat got a modest boost last

Russia – a lurking nuclear disaster

The vast and vulnerable Russian nuclear empire, with thousands of nuclear warheads, an understaffed military and unpaid nuclear scientists, is a catastrophe waiting to happen



A flag saying 'contaminated' stands on the grass in the abandoned town of Prip'yat near Chernobyl, two years after the world's worst nuclear accident.

month when US Energy Secretary Bill Richardson and Russian Nuclear Energy Minister Yevgeny Adamov signed two agreements designed to keep Russia's financial plight from driving its nuclear scientists and plutonium stockpiles into the arms of the highest bidder.

Under one pact, the United States will provide \$30 million to create jobs in the private sector for Russian nuclear scientists in 10 high-security cities previously closed to the outside world. The second agreement clears the way for each country to dispose of 55 tons of plutonium once intended for making weapons, by breaking it down for use as nuclear fuel.

"I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to us all that economic hardship not drive Russian nuclear weapons scientists into employment in places like Iran and North Korea," Richardson said. Now Clinton administration officials generally play down the short-term threat posed by the possibility of Russian nuclear arms falling into the wrong hands. And they have discounted occasional reports that arms might soon explode because of poor maintenance.

But the larger process of reducing Russia's stockpile of nuclear weapons has stalled with the unwillingness of the Russian parliament to ratify START II, which would restrict the number of

nuclear warheads to as few as 3,000 for each nation.

Attempting to reassure the West, and pave the way for future borrowing, new Prime Minister Yevgeny M. Primakov said on the day of his confirmation – Sept. 11, the same day young Kuzminykh seized the Vopr – that approval of START II would be one of his top priorities.

For the time being, however, the Russian government is in such a state of paralysis that it cannot afford to pay the salaries of millions of people – including soldiers, officers, technicians and scientists – who work with nuclear weapons.

"People who have nuclear warheads in their hands have not gotten their salaries for three or four months and are literally hungry," said Vladimir A. Orlov, director of the PIR Center for Policy Studies in Moscow. At some military facilities, he said, officers have used their wives' salaries to buy safety clothing so they would be in compliance with the regulations for handling the weapons.

The government's failure to pay salaries has sparked a number of protests, including a strike by 3,500 scientists this summer at Arzamas-16, one of the biggest and most important of Russia's nuclear cities.

Meanwhile, the quality of recruits has dropped precipitously for elite forces such as the submarine fleet, which during Soviet times was

renowned for its high discipline and morale.

Kuzminykh, officials said, is an example of the kind of sailor who would never have made it into the nuclear fleet of old. They described him as a misfit and a loner who was obsessed with violence, and they questioned how he managed to get past the fleet's psychological screening.

Anufriyev, the Northern Fleet spokesman, called Kuzminykh a "latent schizophrenic." Alexander Nikitin, a former Russian navy captain, said the declining quality of military personnel creates a growing danger of nuclear disaster in Russia.

"It is really scary that one day the use of nuclear arms may depend on the sentiments of someone who is feeling blue, who has gotten out of bed on the wrong side and does not feel like living," he said. "The probability of this today is higher than ever before."

The outspoken Nikitin, who once specialized in inspecting nuclear submarines, was charged with treason after he wrote a report for the Bellona Foundation, a Norwegian environmental group, on radiation contamination by the nuclear fleet in the Murmansk area, above the Arctic Circle. His trial is scheduled for Oct. 20 in St. Petersburg.

Nikitin said that if Kuzminykh had set a fire on board the Vopr – which means Wild Boar – it could

have caused an explosion of torpedoes and a meltdown of the nuclear reactor. The reactor would not have exploded, he said, but a large amount of radiation could have escaped.

"It would have been exactly what happened in Chernobyl, but on a smaller scale," he said, referring to the 1986 meltdown of a nuclear reactor in Ukraine. "We are not talking about a global catastrophe here. We are talking about a very grave local catastrophe."

There are 400 active and decommissioned submarines at the Murmansk base. Alexei V. Yablokov, a former environmental adviser to Yeltsin, estimated that a submarine reactor meltdown there could release one-tenth the amount of radiation of the Chernobyl accident – large enough to affect Western Europe, depending on the direction of the wind.

"It would be a floating Chernobyl," he said.

Government officials dismissed the nuclear danger, saying a fire aboard the Vopr would have been extinguished by automatic sprinklers before any harm could come to the submarine's reactor. They also insisted that there were no nuclear weapons on board – and even if there were, they said, the weapons' casings would have protected them from fire or explosion. (Los Angeles Times)

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US seeks Kosovo strike backing

By GEORGE GEDDA

WASHINGTON (AP) — With American warships and planes standing ready off Italy's coast, the US government took steps yesterday to rally international support for a military strike against Yugoslavia forces if President Slobodan Milosevic refuses to meet UN demands for a peaceful settlement in Kosovo.

President Bill Clinton said it was "absolutely imperative" for Milosevic to agree to a UN Security Council requirement for a cease-fire and other conditions if Yugoslavia is to be spared airstrikes by US-led NATO forces.

In Jerusalem, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said a six-nation "contact group" meeting would be held in London today to discuss the Kosovo issue.

Albright will fly to London after meeting in Brussels with NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana and conferring with US envoy

Richard Holbrooke, who has been in the Balkans on an apparently fruitless mission to persuade Milosevic to meet the UN demands.

Holbrooke will report to NATO envoys in Brussels on his meetings in Belgrade. State Department spokesman James Rubin, who is traveling with Albright, acknowledged there is no consensus for military action against the Serbs.

"We are continuing to push for early action," he said. "NATO is not there yet." Albright told a news conference the London meeting is designed to show how essential it is for Milosevic to comply with the UN demands.

In addition to a cease-fire and the withdrawal of Serb troops from Kosovo, a UN Security Council resolution calls for the return of refugees and the opening of political talks between Belgrade and representatives of Kosovo's majority ethnic Albanian population.

Bujar Bukoshi, a Kosovo Albanian leader, told a gathering in Washington that he hopes the United States will use its air power in a way that persuades Milosevic not only to halt his attacks but also not to resume them later.

The contact group — the United States, Britain, Germany, France, Italy and Russia — has been attempting to bring peace to Kosovo since the conflict erupted there in late February.

All the countries except the United States and Britain have indicated varying degrees of misgivings about using force against Yugoslavia if Milosevic ignores the UN demands.

In an interview with CNN, Albright said NATO was "very coordinated and ready." But she also suggested that the position of some countries is in doubt because they are undergoing political change. This was an apparent reference to the opposition of Germany's Green Party to military

action. The Greens are expected to be a coalition partner with the Social Democrats in forming a new government.

Italy also is in flux, with the government facing a no-confidence vote on Friday. If NATO forces attack, Italy is expected to be a main staging area.

The possibility of a military strike is occurring as a warships and warplanes assembled off Italy's coast have been engaged in a massive military exercise involving 11 NATO countries.

NATO nations reluctant to endorse military action could be persuaded to go along if the UN Security Council were to explicitly endorse such a step. But any such resolution is expected to be vetoed by Russia.

The NATO country most opposed to NATO action is Greece, which has traditional ties with the Serbs.

Clinton, during a photo-taking session in the Oval Office with

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, recalled that Milosevic had assured Russian officials recently that he would comply with the UN resolution.

"The most important thing we can do is to try to work with the Russians to try to actually avoid military strikes by securing compliance with the UN resolutions by Milosevic," Clinton said.

He said NATO cannot be in a position of "letting tens of thousands of people starve or freeze to death this winter because Mr. Milosevic didn't keep his word to the Russians and the world community one more time."

Clinton does not believe an authorizing Security Council resolution is necessary for NATO military action. He has the support of Solana, the NATO secretary-general.

"If we do nothing, we are moving toward a human catastrophe in Kosovo" as winter approaches, the NATO leader said in France.

NEWS

in brief

Dissident released in Blair China visit

BEIJING (Reuters) — A prominent Chinese dissident whose detention threatened to overshadow Prime Minister Tony Blair's visit to China was freed yesterday after the British leader intervened on his behalf.

Xu Wenli, one of China's most outspoken pro-democracy activists, was taken from his home in Beijing early yesterday by police after giving interviews to British media, including the BBC's *Newsnight* program. His detention threatened to turn into an embarrassment for Blair, who had avoided public criticism of China's human rights policies in favor of a "softly softly" approach.

Blair raised Xu's case directly with China's ambassador to Britain and later, after the dissident was released, brought it up during a meeting with President Jiang Zemin.

Algerian rebels massacre family

ALGIERS (Reuters) — Algerian Muslim rebels slit the throats of a family of seven and booby-trapped the corpse of a seven-month-old baby that wounded a government soldier when it exploded, a local newspaper reported yesterday.

"The booby-trapped baby exploded in the arms of a government soldier who was wounded as he was carrying the corpse to a waiting vehicle," the Arabic-language *Sawt al-Ahrar* daily reported.

It said the Islamist guerrillas had murdered the family in the attack Monday night at Tizi in the western province of Mascara, 300 km. from Algiers.

Kuwaiti clergyman calls for church ban

KUWAIT (Reuters) — A Kuwaiti clergyman has called for a ban on building churches in Gulf Arab states, triggering a fresh debate on religious tolerance in Kuwait.

"I see, and Allah knows best, that the entering of non-Muslims to the Arabian Peninsula and Kuwait is not allowed and as such the building of [non-Muslim] houses of worship like churches... are also banned," Sheikh Kazim Misbah told the October edition of Kuwait's *al-Hadath* magazine.

Nevertheless, Misbah said the presence of foreigners — about 65 percent of Kuwait's 2.2 million population — could be allowed under Islam.

"Non-Muslims can be allowed to enter for reasons of necessity to gain from their experiences in the medical, military and other fields," he said.

Jumblatt to boycott army chief's election

BEIRUT (AP) — Walid Jumblatt, Lebanon's minister for displaced persons and a close Syrian ally, yesterday criticized the Syrian-backed choice of army commander Gen. Emile Lahoud as president, and said he will boycott a vote to elect him.

Jumblatt, a Druze, said he and his Progressive Socialist Party's three legislators will not vote when the 128-member Parliament elects the president, likely sometime before October 23.

Although a boycott by Jumblatt's party will hardly spoil the Lahoud's chances, it could embolden others to express discontent at the choice and the process of his election.

Lahoud is virtually assured of the job: The prime minister and the parliament speaker first approved Lahoud, who then won the all-important backing of Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon.

Iran says it's losing patience with Taliban

TEHRAN (AP) — Iran wants a peaceful settlement in its dispute with Afghanistan's Taliban, but it's running out of patience, Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi said yesterday.

Iran has been locked in a dispute with the Taliban after the militia, which controls 90 percent of Afghanistan, admitted its fighters killed eight Iranian diplomats and a journalist in northern Afghanistan in August.

Taliban leaders have refused both demands, calling the diplomats "conspirators" and accusing Iran of arming and financing its northern-based opposition.

'Rumba queen' dies

MIAMI (Reuters) — Alicia Parla, the one-time "Queen of the Rumba" who once gave a dance lesson to Edward, the prince of Wales, has died at age 84, *The Miami Herald* reported yesterday.

Parla, who counted writer Ernest Hemingway and gossip columnist Walter Winchell among her friends and admirers, introduced the Afro-Cuban dance steps to Americans and Europeans in the 1930s as the rumba craze swept the world.

She died of cancer on Tuesday night in Miami, where she had moved after Cuba's 1959 revolution, the *Herald* said.

Clinton asks for 'vote of conscience' on impeachment

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton said yesterday that members of the House of Representatives should cast "a vote of principle and conscience" on whether to approve a broad, Republican-written impeachment inquiry against him. He denied he was trying to pressure lawmakers.

"It's up to others to decide what happens to me and ultimately it's going to be up to the American people to make a clear statement there," the president told reporters in the Oval Office. "More important than anything else to me is they do the people's work and then let the people decide where we go from here."

In return, Sen. Robert Byrd, the senior Democrat in the Senate, offered "friendly advice" to the White House: "Don't tamper with this jury." Senators would be the jury if impeachment resolutions were approved by the House and a Senate trial was convened.

A day before the House is set to approve the impeachment inquiry, Democrats were searching for an alternative that would satisfy both liberals and conservatives in the party, as well as those with tough re-election races.

After a House Democratic caucus, it was clear that a number of lawmakers — especially conservatives and those in tough races — would vote for the Republican resolution.

New German government warns of budget deficit

By PAUL GETTNER

BONN (AP) — Germany's Social Democrats and Greens, hashing out policy for their incoming government, argued yesterday over which taxes to cut and which to raise to combat unemployment.

Party leaders, including Chancellor-elect Gerhard Schröder, went into a round of coalition talks without commenting on the dispute.

But earlier, Franz Muentefering, general manager of the Social Democrats, warned against expectations of big new programs, because finances are tighter than expected.

Budget experts from both parties on Tuesday said their review of accounts found revenues next year will be 20 billion marks (\$12 billion) less than calculated by Chancellor Helmut Kohl's outgoing government.

Another 20 billion marks is at risk in the coming years due to over-generous economic growth forecasts, they added.

"In checking the books we found holes that are really bigger than we thought, and global economic conditions are also difficult," Muentefering said. "Now we have to find a realistic basis."

"This is an invention of the future 'red-green' coalition to conceal their policies of planned tax hikes and to divert attention from frivolous campaign promises," said Adolf Roth, Kohl's budget spokesman in parliament.

Rudolf Scharping, leader of the Social Democrats in parliament, said the new government still plans to push for an income tax cut promised during the election campaign. And Schröder told the *Bild* newspaper that fighting unemployment would remain his top priority.

Coalition talks are to continue through next week, with cabinet posts announced at the end.



Russian hardliners wave placards and red flags during a demonstration in Palace Square in St. Petersburg yesterday. (AP)

Red flags at Kremlin, but protests fizzle

By ALASTAIR MACDONALD

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Red flags fluttered beneath the walls of the Kremlin yesterday as hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets of Russia to protest unpaid wages and call on President Boris Yeltsin to resign.

But apathy again won out over the apocalyptic visions of the Communist Party and labor leaders, and the turnout seemed to have fallen far short of the millions they had forecast.

"Boris, get lost" read one banner above a crowd of some 70,000 gathered just off Red Square as Yeltsin, more isolated than at any time in his seven years in power, got on with what his spokesman called a "normal working day" inside the Kremlin.

The red flags of the Communist opposition were the order of the day, from Vladivostok to the

Winter Palace in St. Petersburg, where tens of thousands rallied at the flashpoint of the Bolsheviks' October Revolution of 1917.

But this was a broad-based outpouring of anger at the way post-Soviet market reforms have left most Russians greatly worse off and a call for a new start, not a return to the old days.

Moscow trade union leader Vladimir Poruchikov seemed to speak for the majority when he said: "We don't want to go back to communism, but we also don't want Yeltsin's policies."

Also worrying for Yeltsin may be the number of local bosses who addressed the crowds and turned their fire on Moscow. They included Alexander Lebed, governor of the vast, mineral-rich territory of Krasnoyarsk in Siberia, who is already gearing up for a run for the presidency.

"All your demands are just," the

reserve general, who was briefly Yeltsin's security adviser, told a rally. "Here we have gathered together a people who have patiently withstood seven years of various experiments, a people that has been steadily robbed. Cleverly and elegantly, hard-earned money has been cleaned out of their pockets."

With Yeltsin's approval rating in single figures, demands that he step down before his term ends in 2000 are growing. But he has given no sign that he will heed the cry. Nor was there any indication that he would need to turn to the police or armed forces to intervene. There were no reports of trouble during

the protests and a change of government last month may have calmed some of the wilder spirits.

Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov urged people not to "rock the boat" in a televised address on Tuesday. He pointedly reminded the troops that he had just paid their wages and assured people they would not go short of potatoes.

Displaying the seemingly bottomless patience that is the mark of the Russian people in adversity, tempers on the streets remained in check despite added hardships caused by the collapse of finances two months ago and the slump in the ruble.

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Killing hippos for houses

The new South Africa, eager to rectify past wrongs, is sacrificing some of its wild hippos in order to quickly build homes for blacks

By DEAN E. MURPHY

In a legend popular among many Africans, the great creator allowed hippos to live in the water under one condition: They could not eat fish, which had been promised to the crocodiles. So every night since the beginning of time, the voracious vegetarians have taken to land in search of supper.

But along the lush banks of the Crocodile River on the outskirts of his impoverished black township near Kruger National Park in Kanyamazane, South Africa, the sacred deal is running afoul of South Africa's young democracy. Long-awaited progress in building homes for blacks here has met in unexpected amphibious obstacle, requiring a massive hipopotamus relocation project for a goal that would have been unthinkable a few years ago in white-ruled South Africa.

The unprecedented animal-control effort puts the pressing needs of black people before those of wildlife. At the same time, it promotes an unsentimental brand of conservation that spills the blood of some animals but saves the lives

of many others.

"This is a very mountainous area, and we don't have enough land for everyone and everything," said Leon Mbangwa of the Mpumalanga provincial housing department. "In the old days, they would have made the (black) people move somewhere else, not the animals."

About three dozen Crocodile River hippos are being targeted for capture and sale to game reserves, zoos and private collections across South Africa. Start-up money for the ambitious project came from selling licenses to three big-game hunters from abroad, each of whom paid about \$1,500 to track and kill a hippo several months ago. Since the sale of the first captured animal, the program is now self-sustaining and hunting is no longer needed.

"It is a matter of economics," Gary Sutter, spokesman for the Mpumalanga Parks Board, the regional animal control and conservation agency, said of the hunting licenses. "Like it or not, we are working without much of a budget. If an operation doesn't pay for itself, we can't do it."

Hundreds of acres of riverfront grasslands are being cleared to make way for 2,000 government-subsidized houses for poor blacks, long denied the dream of owning a home under the apartheid system of racial separation. When applications were taken in July for the first 800 units, 7,000 people showed up, many waiting in a line more than a mile long. The development is the first new housing in 25 years in this township of 44,000, which lies about 12 miles southeast of the Mpumalanga provincial capital, Nelspruit.

But the prospect of human neighbors has not scared off the river's thriving hippo population, which has made itself at home on several vegetable farms beyond the river's edge. The carefree animals waste away their days soaking in the cool water and emerge under the protection of darkness to dine on shrubs, grasses and, increasingly, home-grown delicacies far from the river.

"They love my beet root, spinach, cabbage and okra," said John Mkhonto, whose family cultivates a small square of hilly soil and routinely drives away their

unwelcome dinner guests with giant flashlights. "They eat everything right down to the dirt. They are like a cutting machine."

Farmers have been complaining for years about the pesky trespassers, which also have caused car crashes and train wrecks by trampling their ungainly four-ton hulks across roads and railroad tracks. Hippos kill more humans than all other animals in Africa combined, wildlife experts say, but they are aggressive only when threatened or scared. As such, animal-control officials say, most problems can be avoided with a low-voltage electric fence or a simple ditch, which the stubby-legged mammals cannot traverse.

Mkhonto said Kanyamazane residents rarely harm the hippos, known as "imvubu" in the local siSwati language. Residents have come to fear and respect the animals after generations of sharing the Crocodile River.

"If you throw a stone at one of them, the next time 10 people are in the river, he will pick you out of the group and get you," the farmer said. "The imvubu is like a dog. He won't forget."

But the new housing development, most everyone here agrees, requires extraordinary measures to protect both people and wildlife.

In short, officials say, the mile long stretch of the Crocodile River designated for housing is not big enough for man and beast.

The river's hippo population outside Kruger National Park has been growing at a remarkable rate. Drought in recent years has driven many animals upriver from the park in search of food, while the hippos' greatest predators — humans — have been kept in check by the park's policy of not culling wildlife. About 600 hippos live in the river inside the park, and an estimated 90 others roam a 40-mile stretch upriver from its western gate.

A parks board ecologist estimates that the river's natural vegetation at Kanyamazane can sustain just 10 of the animals; any more, and they will venture into populated areas. At last count, the favorite spot had more than 40 hippos.

"The animals are now tending to go into areas not suitable for them," said Ertyies Rohm, field

services manager for the parks board. "They cause a lot of damage and can be extremely dangerous. We had to destroy six of them last year because it was too difficult to pinpoint them for capture."

Parks board officials generally keep kills quiet because of the outrage they generate among many animal rights and conservation groups in South Africa and around the world. An official announcement about the hippo capture program, for example, made no mention of the three hunting permits, and a parks official asked that this report also exclude the information.

But conservation in Africa has never been the clear-cut battle between good and evil that many animal lovers like to believe, South African wildlife officials say. Killing an animal is not always wrong, they maintain, particularly in the new South Africa where resources are scarce and priorities shifting. In the case of the Crocodile River, hippos, for example, three animals were slain to save 10 times as many, they said.

Capturing animals has always

been part of wildlife management, but that element of the ongoing hippo project here is the biggest effort in this game-rich region to remove hippos directly from an overpopulated stretch of river. In previous captures, hippos were collected from behind agricultural dams, a much easier task.

Since the project began here in July, rangers have rounded up 19 hippos in five batches. The overnight captures have become progressively more difficult as the hippos grow wary of the trap, which is baited with fragrant, freshly cut alfalfa. The ensnared hippos signal their distress by secreting a pungent oil, which acts as a warning to others and can only be masked by sneaking dung across the trap after each capture.

"There is a hell of a high stress level for the hippos during all of this," said Neubert. "When the door closes behind them, it makes a loud noise and stresses them out. They are very clever, much like a jackal. If you catch him once, you won't ever catch him again."

(Los Angeles Times)

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Tea in Jericho

THE PLO AND ISRAEL. From Armed Conflict to Political Solution 1964-1994 edited by Avraham Sela and Moshe Ma'oz. New York, St. Martin's Press, 310 pp. \$45.

By Alex Auswaks

The subject of the Truman Institute conference — at which the papers that comprise this volume were read — was the PLO's transition from armed conflict to political settlement, to becoming a governing body. Of course, there are times when it looks as if none of us ever got out of that first stage.

Our view of historical processes, especially contemporary ones, does tend to get mixed up with subjective as much as objective elements. Those who speak on our behalf have an additional constraint: ostensibly they deal in Realpolitik. It is to be hoped that some of them will read this book.

Its basis is essentially "the conclusion drawn by the late Yehoshafat Harkabi — to whom this volume is dedicated — [that] Israeli-Palestinian relations ... were no longer a 'zero-sum game' but rather an interdependence that had become fully recognized by the mainstream of both parties concerned." The collapse of Oslo would mean hell for both sides. Each side may very well have to meet the other side's essential needs.

Five initial papers in Part I deal with the making of a Palestinian national movement. The perspective is essentially Palestinian. First, there is a thing as a separate Palestinian identity? Emile Sahliyah, associate professor of political science at the University of Texas, concludes that there may not have been an identity separate from the rest of the Arab world (in terms of language, religion, customs), but points out that a disadvantaged group tends to acquire a sense of identity. The dispersion of its members creates a supportive diaspora. Lack of democracy hinders assimilation.

Yezid Sayigh, assistant director of studies at the Centre of International Studies, University of Cambridge, sees the influence of Frantz Fanon on the PLO. The fact that an armed attack took place was in itself more important than the method or the loss of human life. Each act was an assertion of Palestinian independence and will. The national myth of an imagined community was now in place.

The PLO was founded in the image of a state. The 1967 war smashed Arab power, but it now meant that the PLO could be independent of other Arab states. The invasion of Lebanon may have dismantled the PLO's military infrastructure, but the state structure and idea of a state remained.

The surprising contribution is by Muhammad Muslih (associate professor of political studies at Long Island University, and scholar-in-residence at the Middle East Institute, Washington DC), who gives an account of PLO peace initiatives between 1974 and 1988. Earlier programs had envisaged a secular state, but later initiatives sought a Palestinian state in parts of Palestine. A two-state solution, Muslih sees every-



Shimon Peres, Andrei Kozyrev, Yitzhak Rabin and Hosni Mubarak trying to persuade Yasser Arafat to sign the map of the Jericho area after negotiations in Cairo in 1994.

one — the US, Egypt, and Syria — wanting to keep the PLO under control.

Pity, though, about the kind of state being built, writes Hillel Frisch, a lecturer in political science at the Hebrew University. "The omnipotence of one leader and the absence of any role for the most important collective bodies in the PLO are exacerbated by the way PA officials have been chosen...Palestinian state building is therefore unlikely to disprove the general rule regarding fledgling states in the Third World."

Part Two examines the PLO's history from inter-Arab and international perspectives. The historic relationship between the US and the PLO is examined in some detail. Both needed each other. Writes Barry Rubin (professor at Bar Ilan and editor of the *Middle East Review of International Affairs*): "But the breakthrough required direct talks with Israel and acknowledgment that only Israel could make peace for itself. The theory that Israel was either America's puppet or master had to be abandoned."

Part Three deals with the dialectic of the PLO, the uprising and the impact on the diaspora (their diaspora) of PLO politics. It is always invidious to select one paper rather than another when there is such a splendid selection, but the most interesting paper in this section is by Eyed El Sara (a psychiatrist and director of the Gaza Community Mental Health Program, member of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks in Washington, and an authority on trauma and violence among Palestinians). Obviously, much of what he says makes for uncomfortable reading, but he ends his paper by saying: "However, democracy is the next struggle in which they will need to engage in order to

facilitate the rebuilding of society and to assist in the evolution of a new kind of leadership." He stresses the tremendous suffering undergone by women. And the role of women is discussed in a subsequent paper by Naomi Chazan (MK and professor of political science). She sees women as having greater flexibility because in both Arab and Jewish societies they are outside the dominant political discourse.

Part Four deals with "Israeli and Palestinian Relations—Between Past and Future." Leonard Binder (professor of Middle East Studies, UCLA) wears no rose-tinted spectacles. He sees that each side must take into account the other side's internal opposition. The assassination of Rabin demonstrated to the PLO the restraints on Israel's actions. Binder says that Rabin was much more pragmatic than he is given credit for by those who saw his commitment as a moral one. He poses the ultimate question: How do Israel and the PLO actually divide the available benefits? Binder puts forward this view: "The fact is that cooperation would be much easier to attain if all that was required was that each should deliver goods and services to the other in accordance with a signed agreement. Instead, the Declaration of Principles envisions each side carrying out functions within its own territory, controlling its own extremists, adapting its own laws, and managing its own economic and fiscal policies — in ways that will benefit the other. Both sides are supposed to change their own societies, laws, and institutions in order to serve the other." The Declaration of Principles puts them in a position of constantly monitoring each other's domestic policies.

For myself, I will believe all the honeyed words when I can safely have afternoon tea in Jericho.

The lion and the fox

MACHIAVELLI, LEONARDO AND THE SCIENCE OF POWER by Roger D. Masters. University of Notre Dame Press. 366 pp. Price not stated.

By Ephraim Gerber

Here is a book with which to plunge into a corner of the Renaissance while keeping that period's relevance to modern life and thought squarely at the center of attention. In fact, the flaw in this work is that there are too many and too wide-ranging confirmations of Machiavelli's forward-looking insights into today's sciences of human and animal behavior. But even if the reader pages through some of these examples, the book is very much worth reading.

Court life in the Renaissance, as Masters depicts it on the way to his main subject, was no place for the faint of heart; they did not have a machinery for impeachment or censure. To survive and, if possible, thrive, one fashioned many secret lives, always acted covertly and ironically, encoded everything spoken or written, trusted almost no one. As Richelieu once said, "never send a letter, and never destroy a letter." No one could have known this better than Machiavelli, who, as a high official in the short-lived Florentine Republic, kept tabs on some nasty people, and who then was cashiered, imprisoned, tortured and flung into anonymity by the Medicis on their return to power.

It is received wisdom that, although he did not publish it during his lifetime, Machiavelli wrote his masterpiece of Realpolitik, *The Prince*, as a prelude to a possible political comeback. But Masters raises anew the dramatic dissenting possibility that Machiavelli has been misunderstood — that Machiavelli was not machiavellian, and that *The Prince* is really a humanistic, republican document, something so new that it had to be shrouded in a code which can only be understood by a deep immersion in Machiavelli's other writings. Certainly Masters's vision of Machiavelli is of a man after far more important game than some diplomatic posting under the tyrannical Medicis.

A fascinating element of the author's argument is the possibility that Machiavelli might have been an intellectual intimate of Leonardo, but that they kept their friendship entirely secret from both the world and posterity for reasons of their own. Leonardo was the engineering advisor at certain stages to an unbelievably complex plan to subdue Pisa by damming and diverting the Arno River. Machiavelli was the bureaucrat with overall responsibility for the plan, and although neither he nor Leonardo was heeded at crucial stages the former was blamed for the project's ultimate failure. Surely, Masters contends along with several others, the two men must have met and perhaps exchanged views on the nature of human fallibility and the best way to control it through good government. The result of their secret conference makes its secret appearance in *The Prince*.

One of the messages in this book is that we read too quickly, we pass over figurative language without pausing to relate its importance to the life of its

author. Masters exquisitely slows this process down for two of Machiavelli's most famous metaphors: the definition of the successful leader's qualities as being borrowed of "the lion and the fox," and the comparison of fortune to a river. Machiavelli writes in *The Prince*: "I liken her [fortune] to one of those violent rivers through which, when they become enraged flood the plains, ruin the trees and the buildings, lift earth from this part, drop it in another...and although rivers are like this, it is not as if men, when times are quiet, could not provide for them with dikes and dams so that when they rise later, either they go by canal or their impetus is not so wanton or so damaging. It happens similarly with fortune, which shows her power where virtue has not been put in order to resist her." For Masters, Machiavelli is here expounding on the hard-earned wisdom of the abortive Arno project contemplated with Leonardo. And it is the "virtue" of dikes and dams, that is, of the republican government's checks and balances molded against the figure of the powerful prince, that Machiavelli secretly has in mind.

But it is in contemplation of the metaphor of the lion and the fox that Masters is most preoccupied, branching out into chapters on the biological nature of the state and the biology of leadership and communication, all of which Machiavelli seemed to have correctly divined in an intellectual "break" with the perspectives of medieval Christendom and pagan antiquity, at that the emergence of modernity appears to be a working out of something almost preordained by this man of the Renaissance.

The chapters on Machiavelli and Leonardo are fascinating in and of themselves, as are the chapters on modern behavior. If Masters sometimes links them together a bit too forcefully he may be forgiven a scholar's passion for his subject.

STEIMATZKY'S BESTSELLING PAPERBACKS

1. *A Certain Justice* by P.D. James. Penguin.
2. *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy. Farrington.
3. *Mark of Cain* by Ram Oren. Keshet.
4. *Perfidia* by Judith Rossner. Dell.
5. *10 Lb. Penalty* by Dick Francis. Pan, Berkeley.
6. *The Predators* by Harold Robbins. Pocket.
7. *The Ghost* by Danielle Steel. Corgi.
8. *The Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* by Rebecca Wells. Harper Perennial.
9. *The Reader* by Bernard Schlink. Phoenix, Vintage.
10. *Hanna's Daughters* by Marianne Fredriksson. Orion.

Catastrophe pending

RUSTIC SUNSET AND OTHER STORIES by Yitzhak Ben-Ner. Translated by Robert Whitehill. Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1800 30th Street, Boulder, Colorado 80301. 182 pp. Price not stated.

By Leslie Cohen

Rustic Sunset and Other Stories has just been translated into English, 21 years after winning the Ramat-Gan Prize for Literature. The characters in these eight stories are plodding through lives of quiet desperation, housed in settings that match their moods.

In "Cinema," the protagonist is an impotent Tel Aviv resident who spends his life going to films in order to avoid situations he cannot cope with. He bears the mockery of everyone — from his employees to his ex-wife — in silence. Similarly, the controversial military ex-hero in "Nicole" is "a closed book," a tormented man who has never cried, but who can no longer sleep

for he is too afraid of where his dreams will take him. Cut of the same cloth, the protagonist in "Dime Novel" calls himself "a man who's lost his way," and his wife — a poet who attempts suicide — "a high priestess of torment."

Not only individuals lead tortured lives in Ben-Ner's world, so do whole communities. In "Winter Games," a rural Israeli village is at war with itself, as well as the British Mandatory authorities. Its "twenty years of life [have] been twenty years of old age."

In poverty-stricken Kokomo, a town in rural Indiana, when members of a family convert to Judaism, they are ridiculed equally by their Christian relatives and their Jewish "fellow" congregants. And, in "Rustic Sunset," the circumscribed worldview of the narrator's native Israeli village has destroyed his potentially happy marriage. There, even nature conspires against mankind, and the sunset is "drowning [the] village in a hostile crimson." In every story the social and physical environments are actively destructive. The bereaved father in "Eighteen Months" is unable to find

comfort in anything or anyone. After his son's death he senses that catastrophe is waiting for everyone, just around the corner. The mood of despair reaches a climax in the final story, "A Tale of Two Brothers," as the death of a brother leads the narrator to speculate on the demise of his entire heritage.

Sleepless nights, recurrent dreams and nightmares plague Ben-Ner's major characters. And any significant decision that his usually indecisive protagonists make is regretted by them for the rest of their lives. From love gone awry to the loss of a spouse, from the abandonment of one's native land to the end of history itself, every nuance of human disappointment and failure is represented in his stories. What makes all this anguish quite bearable (to the reader) is Ben-Ner's remarkable control of language and his absence of sentimentality. The author's style is highly descriptive and his sensitive handling of colloquial conversation portrays social class, level of intelligence, personality and mood better than any string of adjectives. And the translation seems faithful to the richly detailed text.

BOOK BYTES

In 1992, Cairo's famous second-hand book market along the Azbakiya Park fence was relocated to the city's outskirts in order to enable subway construction to proceed underneath the park. This year in July the book vendors were allowed to return, not to the park's fences but to 132 specially built kiosks.

The tradition began when roving booksellers gathered along the fences of Azbakiya Park for some rest. Often King Farouk's police chased the vendors out. After the 1952 Revolution, permits to sell books in the park were issued. The market became a tradition. Books were plentiful and cheap.

Important Egyptian literary figures like playwright Tewfik El-Hakim and novelist Naguib Mahfouz frequented the "old is gold" book mecca. In the words of one vendor, "Azbakiya has always served as an open university."

BRITAIN'S Take That Ltd. (TTL) publishing company was founded in 1997 on the strength of one book: *The Ancient Art of Farting*. The book was so badly produced that the ink was "still smudging two weeks after being printed" and the binding quickly fell apart. Still, the trash title was a great success, and one that encouraged TTL to forge ahead despite opposition at all levels of the book trade. "We were told that the chain of distribution and sales was firmly controlled by those within the trade and they wouldn't let in outsiders," said Chris Brown, a company founder.

TTL fought on with titles like *The Hangover Handbook* and the *National Lottery Book*, and its biggest success, *The Complete Beginner's Guide to the Internet*, which has sold over 70,000 copies in the UK. TTL's latest title is *Be Your Own Spin Doctor* by Paul Richards, a parliamentary lobbyist.

TTL's modest books, all about 100

pages long, are aimed at beginners who "do not want to be intimidated before they begin," says Brown.

BROTHERS David and Albert Prentice, two prominent Ulster businessmen, filed a \$100 million libel suit in a Washington D.C. court against Sean McPhilemy, author of *The Committee: Political Assassination in Northern Ireland*, and his publisher Roberts Rinehart. The book alleges that the Prentices are members of a secret, state-sanctioned Irish Protestant organization that colluded with the Royal Ulster Constabulary in the murders of over 30 Irish Republicans and random Catholics since 1969.

The publishers, specialists in Irish affairs, claim that they have "a mountain of evidence to support the book," which developed from a 1991 television documentary produced by McPhilemy. The Prentice brothers, among 24 people identified in the book, deny all charges. The book was published in the US, because British and Irish libel laws prevented its publication in either of those two countries.

ON THE greener side of the Irish fence, a recent survey of the Emerald Isle's 100 bestselling books of the century produced some interesting surprises. Competing against all the great names in Irish writing, Dublin author Maeve Binchy led the list with *The Glass Lake* (Orion), which has sold over a million copies. Binchy's *Evening Class* and *The Copper Beech* drew the third and fourth places on the list. *Little Irish Cookbook* (Appletree) by John Murphy came in second. Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, Brendan Behan's *Borstal Boy* and J.P. Donleavy's *The Ginger Man* were ranked fifth, sixth and seventh, respectively. On the Irish top classics list, *Culliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift was No. 1.

David Brauner

HARDCOVER Fiction

1. *Bag of Bones* by Stephen King. (Scribner \$28.) A series of terrifying events besets a bestselling novelist four years after his wife's sudden death.
2. *The Loop* by Nicholas Evans. (Delacorte \$25.95.) A biologist faces professional and romantic problems while trying to protect wolves in Montana.
3. *Rainbow Six* by Tom Clancy. (Putnam \$27.95.) John Clark, heading an international task force, investigates terrorist incidents in Europe.
4. *I Know This Much Is True* by Wally Lamb. (Regan Books/Harper Collins \$27.50.) A troubled man must care for his schizophrenic identical twin.
5. *Tell Me Your Dreams* by Sidney Sheldon. (Morrow \$26.) Three women suspected of committing brutal murders undergo a bizarre trial with a curious defense.
6. *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden. (Knopf \$25.) The life of a young woman growing up in Kyoto who has to reinvent herself after World War II begins.
7. *Field of Thirteen* by Dick Francis. (Putnam \$24.95.) Thriller suspense stories related to horse racing.
8. *Summer Sisters* by Judy Blume. (Delacorte \$21.95.) Two women from different backgrounds come of age together on Martha's Vineyard.
9. *Message in a Bottle* by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner \$20.) After finding a seaborne bottle containing an enigmatic letter, a divorced woman encounters love.
10. *No Safe Place* by Richard North Patterson. (Knopf \$25.95.) The perils suffered by a senator running for president in the year 2000.

HARDCOVER Non-fiction

1. *The Death of Outrage* by William J. Bennett. (Free Press \$20.) A former secretary of education takes a critical view of the Clinton presidency.
2. *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday \$19.95.) A sports writer tells of his weekly visits to his old college mentor, who was near death's door.
3. *The Ten Commandments* by Laura Schieffelin and Stewart Vogel. (Clark Street/HarperCollins \$24.) The radio personality and a rabbi discuss the contemporary significance of the Ten Commandments.
4. *His Bright Light* by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte \$25.) The novelist recalls the life of her son Nick Traina, who suffered from manic depression and died at 19.
5. *High Crimes and Misdemeanors* by Ann H. Coulter. (Farrar \$24.95.) A lawyer takes the case for the impeachment of President Clinton.
6. *The Day Diana Died* by Christopher Andersen. (Morrow \$27.) The events surrounding the death of the Princess of Wales.
7. *A Pirate Looks at Fifty* by Jimmy Buffett. (Random House \$24.95.) The singer-songwriter reflects on his half-century of life.
8. *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson. (Broadway \$25.) A journalist hikes the Appalachian trail.
9. *Conversations with God: Book 1* by Neale Donald Walsch. (Putnam \$19.95.) The author addresses questions of love, good and evil.
10. *Eat the Rich* by P.J. Rourke. (Atlantic Monthly \$24.) The humorist's treatise on economics and the business world.

PAPERBACK Fiction

1. *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* by Rebecca Wells. (Harper Perennial \$13.50.) Three generations of Southern women.
2. *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frieder. (Vintage \$13.) A wounded Confederate soldier journeys home toward the end of the Civil War to meet an old love.
3. *One True Thing* by Anna Quindlen. (Dell \$6.99.) A woman who cared for her fatally ill mother is charged with killing her.
4. *Flood Tide* by Clive Cussler. (Pocket \$7.99.) Dirk Pitt in pursuit of a notorious Chinese smuggler.
5. *Special Delivery* by Danielle Steel. (Dell \$6.50.) Romance comes to a pair who once disliked each other.
6. *Little Altars Everywhere* by Rebecca Wells. (Harper Perennial \$13.) Earlier experiences of the Ya-Ya sisterhood.
7. *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner Vision \$5.99.) A WWII veteran meets an old flame who is about to be married.
8. *Blood Work* by Michael Connelly. (Warner \$7.50.) A retired FBI agent undertakes to solve the murder of an ailing woman's sister.
9. *10 Lb. Penalty* by Dick Francis. (Jove \$6.99.) A politician's career is imperiled by actions taken by his enemies against his son, a onetime jockey.
10. *And Then You Die* by Iris Johansen. (Bantam \$6.99.) On assignment in Mexico, a photojournalist copes with terror and romance.

PAPERBACK Non-fiction

1. *The Starr Report* by (Pocket \$5.99; Forum/Putnam \$9.99; Public Affairs \$10.) The findings of the independent counsel.
2. *The Perfect Storm* by Sebastian Junger. (Harper Paperbacks \$6.99.) The story of the nor'easter of 1991.
3. *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$7.99.) A journalist's account of his ascent on Mt. Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
4. *Why People Don't Heal and How They Can* by Caroline Myss. (Three Rivers \$14.) How beliefs about healing have changed.
5. *The Millionaire Next Door* by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko. (Pocket \$14.) An analysis of the lives of wealthy Americans.
6. *Under the Tuscan Sun* by Frances Mayes. (Broadway \$13.) A celebration of the Italian countryside.
7. *Anatomy of the Spirit* by Carolyn Myss. (Three Rivers \$14.) Holistic medicine.
8. *Citizen Soldiers* by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Touchstone/SAS \$16.) The US Army from Normandy to Germany's surrender.
9. *A Child Called "It"* by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications \$9.95.) The story of a man who survived his mother's abuse.
10. *D Day, June 6, 1944* by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Touchstone/SAS \$16.) An account of the Allied invasion of Normandy.

PAPERBACK Miscellaneous

1. *Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution* by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon \$6.50.) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.
2. *Protein Power* by Michael R. Eades. (Bantam \$8.50.) Two physicians offer a low-carbohydrate plan for losing weight.
3. *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff...and It's All Small Stuff* by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$8.95.) How to enjoy life more and contribute to the world we live in.
4. *The Old Farmer's Almanac 1999* (Yankee Publishing/Villard \$4.95.) The 207th edition of a collection of facts and counsel.

HARDCOVER Miscellaneous

1. *If Life is a Game, These are the Rules* by Charlie Carter-Scott. (Broadway \$15.) Ways to achieve a fulfilling life.
2. *The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom* by Suze Orman. (Crown \$23.) Practical and spiritual steps for managing money.
3. *Sugar Busters* by H. Leighton Steward et al. (Ballantine \$22.) A diet designed for losing weight, increasing energy and combating disease.
4. *Mars and Venus Starting Over* by John Gray. (HarperCollins \$25.) Counsel for men and women following a breakup, a divorce or loss.

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The NIS 4 dollar

Numbers develop their own magic. Like the four-minute mile, the four-shekel dollar became a barrier of psychological, if not intrinsic, importance. On Tuesday, that barrier was broken when the shekel depreciated 2 percent against the dollar, setting a new high of about NIS 4.08 by the end of the day. In these days of global economic flux, every glitch in our economy is being watched for signs that we have caught the bug that seems to be going around.

Less than a year ago, industrialists were agitating for an administratively imposed devaluation to boost exports. The Bank of Israel wisely did not heed their advice, and now we are seeing what many had hoped for - a natural, market-driven devaluation that will make Israeli products more competitive abroad.

The timing of this devaluation is actually not bad, in that the generally slow economy will help dampen the devaluation's downside: inflation driven by the rising cost of imports. Part of this inflationary pressure should be reduced by the Central Bureau of Statistics implementing contemplated changes in the housing component of the cost-of-living index. Housing (both rents and purchase prices) continue to be denominated in dollars as an artifact from the days of high inflation. Whether higher prices are "justified" by increased import costs or not, prices cannot stay high for long if the slow economy keeps demand weak, preventing inflation from rising significantly.

Even though the risk of rampant inflation is very low, it is not surprising that the Bank of Israel is hinting that interest rates will go up at the end of the month. In fact, these hints, though intended to strengthen the shekel, seem to have the opposite effect. Yesterday, the shekel dropped further to NIS 4.096, but the mixed trading showed signs that the slide was reaching bottom.

Though it would be foolish, given the delicate state of the economy, for the Bank of Israel to contemplate a major reversal of the recent 1.5 percent interest rate drop, a small adjustment could make sense. Such an adjustment would signal the bank's determination not to let inflation return, and not to let the shekel devalue too far. On the other hand, those who are already urging the bank to intervene in the currency markets should not be heeded. Liberalization of the currency markets is an important achievement that should not be tossed away. There is no

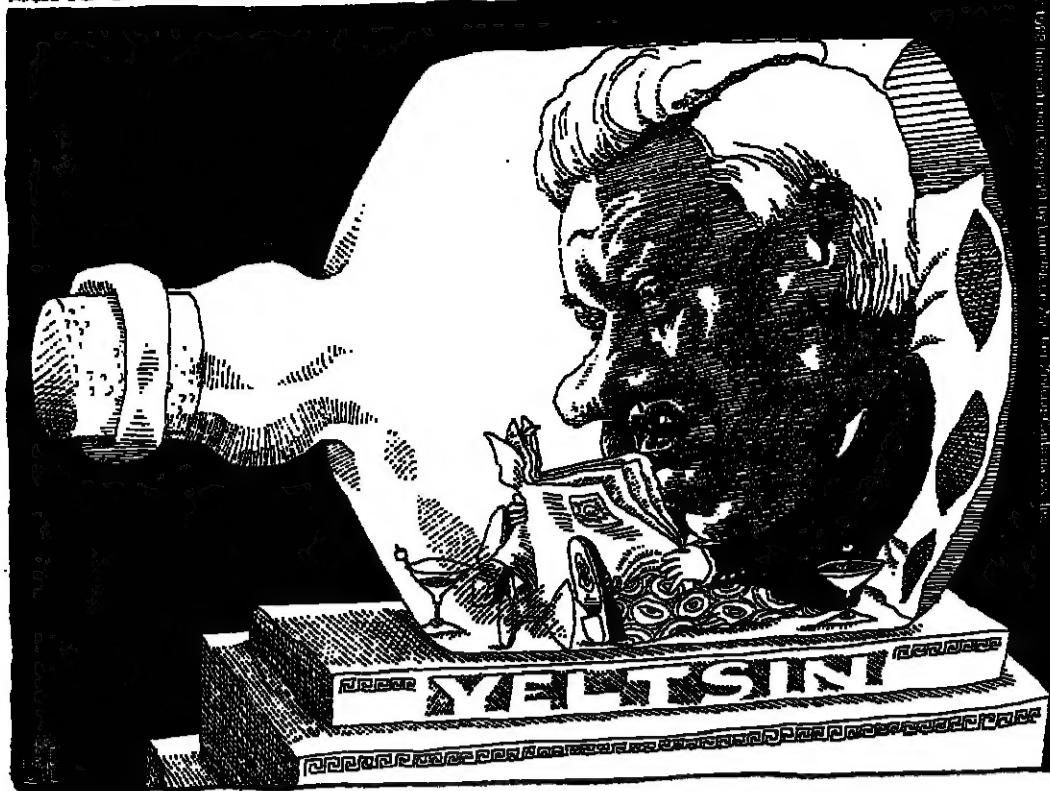
reason to even contemplate bank intervention before the shekel has reached the limits of the existing exchange rate mechanism (the "diagonal"), a limit it is not near reaching.

The fear of some, that the billions of shekels that individuals have sitting in interest-bearing accounts will run to dollar-linked investments, should not be lightly dismissed; but there is no reason to believe that the recent devaluation will lead to such a panic. The dollar, after all, has also depreciated internationally, and it is not clear that Israelis will rush to take on the exchange-rate risks inherent in foreign-currency investments. If there is a danger at the moment, it is to businesses and banks that irresponsibly tied themselves to dollar loans, without the dollar income to diffuse the currency risk of such borrowing and lending.

The global economy is sailing into uncharted waters, and at such times it is wise not to be too sanguine about the Israeli economy's isolation from any further storms ahead. Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman are right to be proud of the economy's fundamental stability, but the current devaluation is ample evidence of the impact of foreign forces on our economy. "Emerging markets" is no longer a phrase that brings a twinkle to an investment analyst's eye and, fairly or not, Israel is often lumped into the same category as nations in Asia and Latin America. Even if Israel stands out as an "island of stability," as Frenkel and Neeman like to crow, investors may not be in the market for islands of any sort. Further, as an export-oriented economy, Israel is sensitive to slowdowns in its markets abroad.

As a result, the current situation calls for navigation between over-confidence and panic, and a redoubling of Israel's commitment to financial restraint and increased competitiveness. Though Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Neeman, and Frenkel are often criticized for justifying unpopular economic policies by pointing to the crises in Russia and Asia, this argument should not be dismissed as a debating tactic. Foreign economic troubles may not force politically difficult economic reforms, but such steps would be necessary even if the global economy were humming along nicely. The climate of global economic uncertainty is not something we would have wished for, but if Israel moves faster in the right direction, fear could be transformed into opportunity.

Lurie's NewsCartoon



Latest addition to the Moscow Mausoleum

Lewinsky, for example

There is one aspect of the Monica Lewinsky affair that should be of special interest to Israelis, as well as to Jews anywhere who care about their Jewish identity. It has nothing to do with politics or with President Clinton's attitude toward Israel. It pertains to the state of American Jewry, the world's largest Jewish community.

Obviously Ms. Lewinsky did not have the outstanding credentials and academic qualifications of a Kissinger or a Sandy Berger, who both made it to top positions in the U.S. government. She is a very ordinary girl and it was only thanks to what we here call *protektzia*, that she landed the much-sought-after job. It only serves to show the extent to which the American Jewish community became so well-connected, right up to the highest levels of society and government.

It seems to me that the behavior and norms that motivated Monica Lewinsky and her family, which emerged from her detailed testimony before the Starr commission, were entirely, if not typically, American. Let me put it this way: Given the choice, how many Jewish parents in America would opt for an internship in the White House for their child rather than a scholarship from the Hebrew University? My guess is that at least ninety percent would jump at the opportunity to send their child to Washington. More than many American Jews who have made it to the summit of American society and government, Monica Lewinsky demonstrates the extent to which American Jewry has become assimilated.

Statistics recently published by

YOSSI BEN-AHARON

the World Jewish Congress show that the American Jewish community is fast disappearing from the Jewish demographic map. The report maintained that within two decades, the present 5.5 million Jews in the United States will be reduced by half.

Membership figures in Reform and Conservative congregations pose a problem because part of the registered members have lost their Jewish identity, even though they may show up for High Holiday services or continue to pay membership fees. The situation in other communities, such as Britain, France, Argentina and Australia is not much better.

SOME Diaspora leaders have insisted that the status of their communities should be likened to that of Babylon, which flourished as an independent entity during the period of the Second Commonwealth in the Land of Israel. They are tragically mistaken, for two reasons. First, in the present generation, Jews assimilate easily because they submerge into societies that are mainly secular and do not require conversion to welcome Jews into their fold. Secularism was non-existent 2,500 years ago.

Second, the centrality of Israel in the current age in Jewish history is unique and unprecedented. It has brought about the revival of Jewish culture, language, religion and custom, much of which is intimately connected with the Land of Israel, whereas 2,000 years of dispersal have caused irrevocable erosion of these characteristics in

Diaspora Jewry.

Some communities abroad have tried to maintain and strengthen Jewish identity through such measures as Sunday schools, day schools, synagogues and weekend seminars.

Demographic statistics tend to show, however, that none of them have succeeded to stem the tide of assimilation. Nor can the semi-ghettos of Williamsburg, Borough Park or Stamford Hill provide a lasting solution. There is no escaping the fact that in the long term, Israel is the only means of maintaining and ensuring Jewish survival and identity.

The government of Israel, the Jewish Agency and the organized leadership of world Jewry must wake up to the urgent need to take action in the face of the impending disaster. This issue must be placed at the top of our list of priorities. It is no less vital than ensuring Israel's own security and survival.

There are many ways and means of attracting Diaspora Jewry to the reality of Israel. Jews who care about maintaining their identity should be approached and shown that Israel cares about their future as Jews, and that they should consider making Israel their first or second home, spending time in Israel and sending their children to study and/or live in Israel.

This is an urgent call to Prime Minister Netanyahu and his government to convene, in Jerusalem, an emergency conference of world Jewish leaders and address the challenge of adopting an urgent plan to save Diaspora Jewry from extinction.

The writer is a former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office.

The View From the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

Apathy and skepticism

The media, whether Arab, Israeli or foreign has been busy covering the visit of Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to the region. But the media frenzy has not been matched by a similar interest by the people of the area. The level of apathy and skepticism of Palestinians today is perhaps unmatched in any other period since the peace process began. Despite the possibility of a breakthrough, political activists, as well as average Palestinians are paying little attention to the recent political discussions.

Ghassan Khatib, director of the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center explains to me that this apathy is most natural, considering all the disappointments Palestinians have experienced. Politicians know that if any compromise will be made, it will be made in Washington and not in the region.

Khatib states that average Palestinians are ahead of the politicians in their prediction that, with the present Israeli government, no change will take place. Whether it is 13% or 10%, Palestinians feel that such talk is way below their minimum expectations. Even the most optimistic have lost hope in even seeing movement on that small scale.

Recalling the story of the birds looking at the hunter with frost-induced tears in his eyes, Khatib repeated what one bird told the other bird: "Don't look at their tear-filled eyes, look at their finger on the trigger."

THE source of Palestinian skepticism today is not only based on an emotionless political analysis. All a Palestinian has to do is try to travel from one location to another, and the anti-peace reality of the Israeli government hits him or her in the face.

At a time of proven Palestinian Authority actions against armed Islamic militants, the Israeli security forces continue to revert to unproven travel restrictions affecting the entire Palestinian population. A triple closure has been in effect while Madeline Albright travels from Jerusalem to Jericho to the Beit Hanoun junction near Gaza.

The regular closure, in effect since March 1993, has barred entry of Palestinians without special permits into Jerusalem and Israel. Since September 10, and after Israel assassinated two Hamas activists, Palestinians with travel permits were forbidden entry.

We were told that this closure was a short-term precautionary act. This closure affected Palestinians who work in Israel, as well as business people, doctors and journalists. About a week later, the closure was slightly relaxed. For humanitarian reasons, we were told, doctors were allowed to get special permits. Accredited journalists and a few thousand workers were allowed into Israel.

Last week, this easing of the closure was reversed. Citing intelligence reports of threats of violence, the closure was again tightened. The new policy extended the closure to the few business people, doctors and workers who had been allowed to move around. Now we are told that the 2.5 million Palestinians will not be allowed to move into Jerusalem and Israel, or between Gaza and the West Bank, until after Succot.

Of course, during this entire period, this apartheid-like closure order has not affected the Jewish settlers who live in Palestinian areas. Their movement has never been affected, even when downtown Hebron was under curfew.

The Palestinian apathy will make the work of their political leaders that much more difficult. The fear is that if a future agreement fails to affect the day-to-day lives of Palestinians, few will give it the support it needs. If prisoners are not released, safe passages are not opened, settlements and land confiscation don't stop and the economy doesn't improve, how can Palestinians believe in the peace process?

Until recently, Palestinians were supportive of the peace process, knowing that even with the ups and downs that go with negotiations, the general direction the process was taking was to their liking.

This has changed. Rank-and-file Palestinians no longer feel the process is going in the right direction. And through their growing apathy, more Palestinians are indicating their lack of faith in the process as a whole.

And for these people, it is no longer important whether the Israeli pullback is 10 or 13%, or whether President Clinton can muster a breakthrough or not.

Albright is right about the importance of time. As time goes by without major, tangible progress in the peace process, short-term breakthroughs will not be enough to turn Palestinian skeptics of the peace process into believers. Sustained, tangible and sincere efforts are needed to bring the Palestinian majority

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TEMPLE MOUNT TRUTH

Sir, - While there may be those who would deplore Yosef Goell's use of such pejorative terms as "primitive nutcases" and "loonies" in his article criticizing Temple Mount activists, "Religious war" (September 23), what is truly unfortunate is his description of the situation on the Mount as an "uneasy status quo."

As Goell should know, there is no status quo there. The Moslem Wakf is the sole administrative authority. Although the Hashemite Kingdom presumes it still maintains its "historic role" there, as set out in the 1994 peace treaty, it is the Palestinian Authority who appoints the mufti.

That mufti, and other religious

leaders, spew forth hatred and racism in their sermons. A third mosque area was constructed underground, joining over a dozen open-air prayer platforms that have been built over the last two decades. And all the while, no Jew, despite what is guaranteed in the Law for the Protection of the Holy Places, can appear on the Mount as distinctively Jewish, but only as a "visitor."

And for sure, he cannot pray there.

Many historical and archeological remnants of the Second Temple period and later have been damaged, built over or covered by gardens and the planting of tree groves. The opening of a

Temple Mount was an excuse for a violent insurrection two years ago. Israeli Moslem fundamentalists support "al Aksa" societies that further anti-Israel propaganda.

I, and many others, would prefer that instead of our smugly sane commentators ignoring the political and religious facts of this element of the Israel-Arab conflict, preferring to label us as irrationalists, that they, at the very least, relate to the truth of the situation. We, then, would feel much less uneasy about them and their opinions.

YISRAEL MEDAD

Shiloh.

MILITARY INFORMATION

Sir, - In my research work at the Association of Jewish Ex-servicemen and Women Military Museum in London, I am seeking information about the following and would humbly ask that your readers please help.

Please write to me at my home address below. Correspondents should give me their names and addresses so I may reply.

Information is sought on the following:

1. Any Jews who fought at Arnhem and the raid on Dieppe and Bruneval.
2. Pte Abraham Fenton, King's Own Scottish Borderers, from

Glasgow killed at Arnhem - surviving family?

3. Sgt Max Rams - gunner - killed at Arnhem - more information?

4. Peter Newman, really Nagle, of the Pioneer Corps attached to Airborne, German Jewish refugee, fought at Bruneval and lived in northern England after war. Surviving family to contact.

5. Pte James Levene/Levine, DCM, from Liverpool, fought in Burma with Chindits and died soon after war from malaria - information and surviving family.

6. Maurice Rosenthal of Whitechapel, born Jan. 1907, dis-

charged from the French Foreign Legion in 1932 - surviving family?

7. Pte Walter Lewy-Lingen aka London, German Jewish refugee - 93rd Pioneer Corps, attached Airborne, killed at Arnhem - want to contact surviving family, especially sister and nephews/nieces - had an aunt in Oxford where he studied at Balliol before war.

MARTIN SUGERMAN
Assistant Archivist,
AJEX Jewish Military Museum.

16 Brenthouse Road,
London E9 8QG.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On October 8, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported from Geneva that the German delegation had torpedoed the Dutch resolution calling for the appointment of a League of Nations High Commissioner for German refugees. As one negative vote nullified the resolution, the Swiss appealed to the

1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that massive Egyptian troops concentrations with tanks and air support attacked Jewish positions in the Negev. At the same time Arabs opened heavy fire against Jewish positions in the Musarra quarter of Jerusalem.

25 years ago: On October 8,

abandoned some fortifications along the Suez Canal and moved back. Air force planes were still attacking the bridges thrown across the Canal and at least nine of the 11 bridges were damaged. In the Golan area Israeli armor and infantry fought a successful holding action against a massive Syrian armored attack.

סכר מן האל

Weekender

Dark nights of the soul

The Toronto film festival featured a number of movies about the Nazi era

By PEARL SHEFFY GEFEN

A Brazilian film produced by a Swiss Jew and an Italian's unique approach to the Holocaust were the major highlights at this year's Toronto International Film Festival.

Another Cohn, the only producer in the world with five Oscars (beginning with *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*), looks likely to snare a sixth with magnificent film *Central Station*, which is due to have its Israeli premiere at a Jerusalem Theater charity gala on December 24. The story of a crusty old woman and a boy seeking his father, directed by an unknown Brazilian, Walter Salles, and played by equally unknown actors, has already earned rave reviews and top prizes at the Berlin and Sundance festivals.

Cohn says that, "as with all my films, I made this one against everybody's advice." The \$3 million film - with no sex, no violence, no special effects, and in a foreign language - has had standing ovations at every screening for its emotional impact. Cohn is preparing two more movies with Salles, set in the US and France. (His plans to shoot *The Foolish Immortals* in Israel have been delayed until the script satisfies him.)

Cohn's only probable competitor for the next Foreign Film Oscar is Roberto Benigni's *Life Is Beautiful*, which was one of the highlights of this year's Jerusalem Film Festival.

At the Toronto festival, where only a few specialized prizes are awarded, Benigni's film ranked just slightly higher than *Central Station* and garnered both the international Media and People's Choice awards.

The only Israeli entry was Ron Havilio's marathon six-hour epic documentary "Fragments Jerusalem" which traces his family's roots in Jerusalem over two centuries. The film has won major prizes in Japan, Berlin and Edinburgh.

Havilio complains that the film, "on which I worked for 10 years, has not been properly appreciated by the Israeli press, particularly Ha'aretz, though *The Jerusalem Post* reviewed it well when it was shown in its incomplete form two years ago. It received wonderful audience response but no media interest at all during last summer's Jerusalem Film Festival."

IT WAS not a stellar year in cinema worldwide, a fact reflected in the 10-day festival's line-up of films selected from 1,342 submissions, with 144 world or North American premieres and an unprecedented 83 by first-time directors.

There were a few genuine triumphs. Most films ranged from good to so-so, but half a million Torontonians waited in long lines to catch as many as possible of the 25,600 minutes of viewing. The box-office bonanza reached \$1.28 million.

Among the highlights were John Maybury's *Love Is the Devil* with a brilliant performance by Derek Jacobi as the dissolute painter Francis Bacon; *Elizabeth*, with Oscar-caliber acting by Cate Blanchett as England's first Queen Elizabeth and *Shine*'s Geoffrey Rush; *Walking Ned Devine*, a delicious Irish comedy about winning



'Little Voice,' starring Michael Caine as a sleazy failure, was one of the best films at the Toronto International Film Festival.

a lottery by first-time director Kari Jones: Bernardo Bertolucci's intimate *Basquiat*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa*, starring Meryl Streep as the eldest of five Irish spinster sisters, based on Brian Friel's haunting play.

The Cruise, a documentary by newcomer director Bennett Miller with a shooting budget of only \$100,000, follows an eccentric, homeless, nonconformist Jewish tour guide around Manhattan. It earned itself a laudatory article in *The New York Times*.

Eighteen features by the new generation of Japanese filmmakers, with themes ranging from postwar political history to contemporary life, offered gang warfare, violence, faith, and millennial angst, with lots of comedy sprinkled in, particularly in Koki Mitani's madcap romp *Welcome Back Mr. McDonald*, which skewers Japan's vaunted collective decision-making process.

Dani Levy's *The Giraffe*, a world premiere, is a thriller about two families - one American, one German - with a shared past harking back to the Nazi era. Swiss-born, Levy lives in Berlin, which his mother and grandmother fled before the war for Switzerland.

Levy grew up in the Basel Jewish community, but says he let his Jewishness fade until he was brought back to it a decade ago by his non-Jewish German girlfriend, Maria Schrader, who co-wrote and co-stars with him in this filmed attempt to seek his roots.

Bryan Singer's *An Apt Pupil*, based on a Stephen King novella, probes the insidious power of evil

by "pulling" a blackmailing high-school student eager to elicit graphic details of the Holocaust against an aging Nazi in hiding (devastatingly played by Sir Ian McKellen).

The Canadian films most likely to reach an international audience are wunderkind Robert Lepage's *No. Don McKellar's Last Night* (of the world, not just the looming millennium), and Francois Girard's *The Red Violin*. Girard's film traces the fate of a mysterious violin across three centuries and five countries, and offers a steamy view of Greta Scacchi administering to the sexual needs of an eccentric young man as he plays the violin. Both *Last Night* and *The Red Violin* were produced by Israeli-born Niv Fichman for his Toronto-based company, Rhombus Media.

Mark Herman's *Little Voice*, one of the best of the world premieres, stars Michael Caine as a sleazy failure who latches onto a reclusive young girl with a glorious voice, the daughter of his boozy paramour, as his last chance to hit the big time.

Caine, who filmed *Ashanti* in Israel about 15 years ago, told me he can make likeable the reprehensible characters he often portrays because "nobody is a villain to himself, he just thinks the rest of the world is wrong. Human beings are like animals if you corner them, they will attack you."

Anand Tucker's *Hilary and Jackie* (not the famous American First Ladies), reveals an unexpected view of master cellist Jacqueline du Pre, who married Daniel

Barenboim in Israel after the Six Day War. Based on a memoir by Jacqueline's devoted sister Hilary, it stars Emily Watson as the cellist and Rachel Griffiths as Hilary, who abandoned her own musical talents to be a wife and mother.

The film depicts Jacqueline as a deeply lonely woman who never wanted to be famous and hated the relentless grind of tours, during which she would spend time alone and frightened in countless empty hotel rooms before she broke down emotionally, became destructive, and, at only 42, died of multiple sclerosis.

"With all her passion, genius and wonderful spirit, Jackie didn't have a happy life," notes Griffiths. "But being ordinary is no less difficult than being extraordinary." Barenboim is portrayed sympathetically in the film. There were no scenes shot in Israel because "we didn't have enough budget," Griffiths told me.

Daphna Kastner's *Spanish Fly* is a charming story of a young American woman discovering machismo and her own hang-ups in Spain, and concluding that "we women have to get back to our instincts and trust them." Born in Montreal to a Canadian businessman and an Israeli mother, Kastner wants to make a movie about her parents' love story. "My father saw my mother walking down the street in Tel Aviv when he swam in the Maccabiah Games, fell in love with her at first sight, and proposed a week later."

Without Limits is renowned screenwriter Robert Towne's first film as director. It was produced

by Tom Cruise, who said that he relinquished the starring role because, in his mid-thirties, he felt too old to play the charismatic athlete Steve Prefontaine. Billy Crudup snagged the juicy part instead.

Iranian filmmaker Mohsen Makhmalbaf's *The Silence* is an uplifting tale about a blind village boy. Brilliant writer Maya Angelou made her directorial debut with *Down in the Delta*, a touching family drama. Screenings of Amos Kollek's *Fiona*, his US feature about prostitutes, were popular. John Boorman's *The General* tells the story of a legendary Irish gangster, with Jon Voight as the cop determined to capture him. *Wide Prairie*, a short produced by the late Linda McCartney, was based on one of her songs.

Lebanese-born filmmaker Ziad Doueiri's semi-autobiographical *West Beirut* is about three adventurous youngsters, two Muslims and a Christian girl, whose adolescence is hijacked by Lebanon's civil strife. It was awarded the Fipresci prize by a jury headed by Israeli journalist Dan Fainaru, for its "unconventional approach to human values in the midst of civil war."

There were films about terrorism from India, New York druggies, French killers, eccentric families, and lots of sex, politics, redemption, pedophilia, necrophilia, sadomasochism and incest. In short, festival fare that probed the dark corners of the human soul. But take heart: some younger filmmakers leaned to romantic comedies. Maybe there's hope yet for the human race.

parade, complete with floats, ethnic music bands, dance troupes, youth groups etc. Starts at 3 p.m. at Gilo Park.

And Points Beyond

Gear up for supersaturation with culture. Tonight at the (free) Afola "Harvest" Festival, the Mount Pleasant Choir from the US joins guest singer Bobby Jones for a "Gospel Evening." Call (06) 659-5797 for details.

Hardy souls (with high tolerance) can head to Rishon LeZion for the second and last day of the massive *Bacchanalian* celebration today. Even if you loathe the grape, tonight at 7:30, Ahinoam Nini (who can resist her?) and the Rishon Orchestra perform together at the Amphipark At 8:30 p.m., Israel's singers perform at the square at Beit Ha'am and the evening goes on to feature Yossi Banai, Dana Berger, Orna Banai and Corinne Elal. Call for more details: (03) 961-5133 or (03) 961-1385.

A product of Dan Almagor and Yossi Alfi could only be top-notch. The Storytelling Festival is now

teaches lessons in tolerance, with lovely rhymed dialogue. Beit Hahayal, today at 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

On Friday, spend the day making love: the *March of Love* has Israel for the first time, on loan from Europe. This is a musical event/parade that begins on Yirmiyahu Street in the north at midday, and strides down Dizengoff, with a DJ playing house and dance music, samba and rock. The whole thing ends in a huge dance party in Dizengoff Square. Bring your dancing shoes: the fiesta is scheduled to last six hours.

And when all that love-marching is over, march down to Suzanne Dellal on Saturday night for a love-fest of a different sort: The Drag Festival begins at 8:30 p.m. (entrance from 7:30 p.m.), an event that will include Si Heiman and dancer Ido Tadmor. Call (03) 510-5656 for details.

Jerusalem

The Jerusalem March dominates the city today, as the official end of 50th celebrations. A regular

When it comes to the Crunch...

By SONIE LEMOR

Do you ever wake up in the middle of the night yearning for a pastrami on rye? Those in the know will send you directly to Crunch sandwich bar.

Located in the trendy area of Florentine, amidst the recording studios, art studios and flats rented by dancers and actors, Crunch could not have found a better place to open up shop.

Three years ago, Ofer Sheni and Moshe Peretz took quite a risk in opening a quality sandwich bar in a neighborhood known for low incomes and a high crime rate, but their foresight paid off as Florentine became a SoHo-type place to live.

During the daytime, Crunch is populated by locals who begin their day around the time that others take their lunch break. Crunch's ambience mixes a European homey feeling with Tel Aviv art-deco and the sandwich bar certainly lives up to its name - it's all bars.

There are two tables with high, plushy red velvet and metal stools and five bars. Two of the bar seating areas are outside on the window and three bars are inside, one facing a large mirror that covers the entire back wall. All of the bars and tables are made of a golden wood, lending warmth to the atmosphere.

Crunch is not a very big place and caters to a large number of take-away customers. Apart from the seating areas, Crunch has of a deli-type ordering station complete with an indoor roof.

Crunch's outstanding feature, of course, is the ideal sandwich any time of the day or night. Whether you seek a delicate cheese sandwich for lunch or a bulging meat combination to ward off nighttime munchies, you can create them at Crunch.

The glass deli bar hosts a world of ingredients that turn an ordinary snack into a Crunch sandwich. I admit to indulging myself in a huge Crunch sandwich of coldcuts and cheeses at least three times a week.

Regulars make up their sandwiches by first choosing which fresh bread they want. They then pick the type of cream cheese they want and which freshly cut veggies to add. They continue on to choose a pastrami or ham or any other imaginable type of meat. The sandwich is then topped off with olive oil and balsamic vinegar and is served in a little wicker basket with a green onion and cherry tomatoes.

If you arrive before 6 p.m., you receive a complimentary glass of juice, but it is instant and not worth writing home about. Crunch offers a limited selection of drinks, but it has the basics. If you're out for a night of boozing, Crunch is a great place to pick up a sandwich beforehand.

Crunch is not one of the typical who's-who places, but since it is in a very "in" neighborhood, most of the local musicians pop in between recording sessions and Batsheva dancers who live across the way make Crunch a habit. There is also the hit series *Florentine*, which does its filming and rehearsing in and around Crunch. The whole nighttime scene is a sort of local meeting place with regulars looking in to see if the gang has been by yet - turning the attractive workers into a mini answering service. Crunch has become quite a part of the new Florentine culture and is not to be missed.

Crunch is open from Sunday to Thursday from 7:30 a.m. until 2 a.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. until Saturday morning. It is closed Saturday, including Saturday night.

Crunch, 7 Haim Vital Street, Tel-Aviv,

Musicians on my mind

Rapper Hemi Artzi of Shabak Samech talks about his favorite Israeli musicians

I very much believe that there are some Israeli musicians who are not getting the respect that they deserve," says Hemi Artzi, one of the three lead singers of the hit rap band Shabak Samech.

Ironically, Shabak Samech, originally from Yavne, started out as a game.

"We all went to school together and when we were about 16, we decided that it would be a fun thing to do," says Artzi. "None of us were musicians at the time we did 'eeny meeny miney mo' to decide who plays what. One of the reasons that I rap is that I don't know how to sing."

After eight years, despite the amateurish beginnings, it was named "Band Of the Year."

Prizes were not new to Shabak Samech. In high school, it won numerous contests and, by the time the musicians were 18, they were signed on by NMC Records to make their first album.

The first disc we recorded never came out because it was too harsh. We went off on all sorts of things and used a lot of dirty language and violence but hey, we were just street kids, you know?" explains Artzi.

Soon after that, the second album, *Shabak Samech*, was released and has seen a steady increase in sales. Recently a third studio album and a live album were released.

After the first album, Artzi decided to take some time off to travel, as the band continued up the ladder of success. Now 23, Artzi has returned to Shabak Samech.

"After touring in several countries, I came back to Tel Aviv and opened up a rehearsal room for bands. I guess that one of the reasons I went back [to Shabak Samech] was that I felt like they, and Israeli music in general, needed some help. The new album that we are writing now is more like the first one that was released. We feel that we have something to say that is real," says Artzi.

Artzi has a deep respect for a number of Israeli musicians who have influenced him.

"They are the only Israeli band in this day and age that I can honestly call a rock 'n' band. They are sort of a super-group. Every member of the band was in a very successful band before. They are great to see live; I really recommend going to their shows. I believe that in performance they are the second best band in the country."

5. Hazvuvim

"They are the only Israeli band in this day and age that I can honestly call a rock 'n' band. They are sort of a super-group. Every member of the band was in a very successful band before. They are great to see live; I really recommend going to their shows. I believe that in performance they are the second best band in the country."

4. Shmuelik Kraus

"I think that he is one of the most important artists in Israel. Kraus is a musical genius. Everything that he touches turns into an immediate masterpiece. I also think, if I'm not mistaken, that he has begun to perform again."

3. Bitrei Zuzei

"The guitarist and lead singer of the band, Ram Orion, is really something. They are relatively new and are already one of the leading bands in Israel. Their first album has not yet been released, but Orion is a virtuoso, in my opinion. In his last band he played guitar, but in Bitrei Zuzei, Orion is doing the writing and arranging as well. I definitely recommend seeing them perform."

2. Ariel Zilber

"I find him to be one of the most amazing artists in Israel. He is very open in his music and his texts are amazing. He is a pleasure to listen to. In my opinion, he does not get the respect that he deserves."

1. Hemi Artzi

"I think that he is one of the most important artists in Israel. Kraus is a musical genius. Everything that he touches turns into an immediate masterpiece. I also think, if I'm not mistaken, that he has begun to perform again."

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Hot tip

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN

Tel Aviv

Since last Thursday, jazz jams have been appearing spontaneously on Tel Aviv street corners. Heineken-Camelot has transformed the city into one great big jazz venue since its Downtown Jazz series began a week ago, and if you've missed it until now, this weekend is your big chance. Tonight, the festival holds a concert at the Amphi Wohl in Hayarkon Park, with Slide Hampton (who dominates the

weekend through the end of the festival) and the Tel Aviv Jazz Orchestra, Myron Walden and the Omer Avital Trio. Friday night, Slide teams up with the Alei Magan Trio at Camelot itself (10:30) and Saturday night the whole thing winds up with a round of concerts starring some of those seen earlier: Mike Stern, Shazam and back to Slide. The music plays at both at Camelot and Amphi Wohl on Saturday night, so call Camelot itself for details: (03) 528-5222.

Appropos Zahala goes off its beaten track, refusing to compete with Downtown: Brazilian music is the theme of this evening, with Bossa Nova starting at 10 p.m.

Comedy rules! The Yiddish Theater tonight celebrates 50 years of Yiddish drama with its hilarious *Good Yom Tov, Yiddish*. Rusty in the mamaloshen? Simultaneous translation provided. ZOA House, starting at 8 p.m.

For entertainment during the day if you're off work, Orna Porat's latest is great for children, and charming fun for adults, too. *Baldy Heights* invents a city full of proud hairless citizens that

Weekender Food & Drink

Balancing the fat at thirtysomething

The law of low-fat averages means taste and flavor always tip the scales in your favor.

Some folks have gotten so fixated on the percentage of calories from fat that they've exiled themselves from foods that are over the federally recommended 30 percent. The fixation is so intense, in fact, that we inevitably get calls from freaked-out readers whenever a Cooking Light recipe exceeds the 30 percent benchmark.

This story is intended to help smooth those ruffled feathers and soothe misplaced anxieties over fat. The bottom line is that there's a better way to get to the goal: Figure the average. You're a whole, not just parts, and so is what you eat.

It's far more important that you average 30 percent or fewer calories from fat over the course of a day, a week, or even a month than it is to hold the line on every bite that goes in your mouth. And it's a lot more fun. Why? More choices. Effectively combining higher- and lower-fat foods over time means that many favorites — especially meat, fish, and poultry cuts with more naturally occurring fat — don't have to be banished to nutritional Siberia.

It's a simple matter of quid pro quo. Take salmon — and most of us would love to — but some think they can't because 42 percent of its calories come from fat. But pair the salmon with a starchy side such as our Butternut Rice Pilaf (6 percent of calories from fat), and the meal's total calories from fat drop to 26 percent. See the pattern? Even flank steak, with more than 50 percent of calories from fat, can make the cut. Just link it with a counterbalancing side such as our Thai Coconut Noodles, with only 12 percent of calories from fat. A day of this kind of eating, and you can stay healthy without feeling deprived. Over a week, you have even more flexibility, resulting in the same bottom line that would have come from following a more Spartan course.

Nobody's telling you to give an inch on the low-fat front, though. A contrarian might argue that the law of low-fat averages implies you could pack away a dozen cream-filled doughnuts for breakfast and then eat nothing but bread and lettuce for the next two days, and your overall average would remain within the 30 percent guidelines. Maybe mathematically, but not nutritionally. It's not in the spirit of the guidelines, either, and common sense advice into absurdity.

Balancing your fat intake is really a way of strengthening your entire way of eating with the smart use of tasty and nutritious — although naturally higher-fat — foods. Our point is that there's more than one way to catch a salmon. And in these menus, we've paired four low-fat/higher-fat recipes to show you how opposites can indeed be attractive. After all, life doesn't stop at 30.

LEMONGRASS-CHICKEN THIGHS

1/2 cup fresh lemon juice
2 Tbsp. molasses
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
4 garlic cloves, chopped
8 chicken thighs, skinned (about 900 gr.)
Cooking spray
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. black pepper

1. Combine first 4 ingredients in dish, and add chicken. Cover and marinate in refrigerator 1 hour, turning occasionally.
2. Preheat oven to 220 degrees.
3. Remove chicken from marinade; reserve marinade. Arrange chicken in a shallow roasting pan coated with cooking spray, our reserved marinade over chicken, and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake at 220 degrees for 20 minutes; baste chicken with marinade. Bake an additional 20 minutes or until chicken is done.

Yield: 4 servings (serving size: 2 chicken thighs).
Calories 258 (40 percent from fat); fat 11.6g (sat 3.3g, mono 4g, poly 2.6g); protein 27.3g; carb 9.9g; fiber 0.1g; chol 98mg;



ROASTED POTATOES AND ARTICHOKES WITH FETA

900 gr. small red potatoes, quartered
2 (420 gr.) cans artichoke hearts, halved
2 Tbsp. chopped fresh or 2 tsp. dried thyme
1 Tbsp. olive oil
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 cup black pepper
Cooking spray
1/2 cup (60 gr.) crumbled feta cheese

1. Preheat oven to 220 degrees.
2. Combine the first 6 ingredients in a large bowl, tossing well to coat. Arrange the potato mixture in a 33 x 23 cm. baking pan coated with cooking spray. Bake at 220 degrees for 40 minutes or until the potatoes are tender, stirring occasionally. Combine the potato mixture and feta cheese, and toss well. Yield: 4 servings (serving size: 2 cups).
Calories 337 (19 percent from fat); fat 7.1g (sat 2.7g, mono 3.2g, poly 0.6g); protein 14g; carb 60.8g; fiber 4.3g; chol 13mg; iron 5.9mg; sodium 656mg; calc 194mg.

BARBECUE ROASTED SALMON

1/2 cup pineapple juice
2 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
4 (180 gr.) salmon fillets
2 Tbsp. brown sugar
4 tsp. chili powder
2 tsp. grated lemon rind
1/2 tsp. ground cumin
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
Cooking spray
Lemon wedges (optional)

1. Combine first 3 ingredients in a zip-lock plastic bag; seal and marinate in refrigerator 1 hour, turning occasionally.
2. Preheat oven to 200 degrees.
3. Remove fish from bag; discard marinade. Combine sugar and next 5 ingredients (sugar through cinnamon) in a bowl. Rub over fish; place in a 28 x 18 cm. baking dish coated with cooking spray. Bake at 200 degrees for 12 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork. Serve with lemon, if desired. Yield: 4 servings.

Calories 314 (42 percent from fat); fat 14.7g (sat 2.5g, mono 6.9g, poly 3.3g); protein 35.3g; carb 9g; fiber 1g; chol 111mg; iron 1.5mg; sodium 405mg; calc 30mg.

BUTTERNUT-RICE PILAF

1 tsp. olive oil
1 cup chopped onion
3 garlic cloves, minced
3 cups (1/2-inch) peeled cubed butternut or other winter squash (about 450 gr.)
2 cups water
1 cup uncooked long-grain rice
1/2 cup bottled roasted red bell peppers, chopped
1 tsp. dried rubbed sage
1 tsp. lemon juice
1/2 tsp. salt

Calories 227 (52 percent from fat); fat 11.5g (sat 0.3g, mono 0.2g, poly 0.4g); protein 7.7g; carb 40.1g; fiber 3.5g; chol 1mg; iron 1.3mg; sodium 277mg; calc 13mg.

ROASTED CORN-AND-GARLIC COUSCOUS

3 garlic cloves, peeled
2 cups fresh corn kernels (about 4 ears)
Cooking spray
1/2 tsp. salt, divided
1/2 cups fat-free, less-sodium chicken broth
1/2 cup water
1/2 tsp. black pepper
1/2 tsp. black pepper
1/2 cups uncooked couscous
1/2 cup chopped green onions
2 Tbsp. diced pimento

1. Preheat oven to 220 degrees.
2. Wrap garlic in foil. Place garlic and corn on a jelly-roll pan coated with cooking spray. Sprinkle 1/2 tsp. salt over corn. Bake at 220 degrees for 15 minutes, stirring every 5 minutes. Unwrap garlic, and mince. Combine garlic, corn, broth, water, 1/2 tsp. salt, and pepper in a medium saucepan. Bring to a boil; gradually stir in couscous. Remove from heat; cover and let stand 5 minutes. Fluff with a fork; stir in onions and pimento. Yield: 5 servings (serving size: about 1 cup).
Calories 193 (7 percent from fat); fat 1.5g (sat 0.3g, mono 0.2g, poly 0.4g); protein 7.7g; carb 40.1g; fiber 3.5g; chol 1mg; iron 1.3mg; sodium 277mg; calc 13mg.

PEPPERCORN FLANK STEAK

1/2 cup dry red wine
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 (450 gr.) flank steak
2 Tbsp. mixed peppercorns, crushed
Cooking spray

1. Combine first 3 ingredients in a large zip-lock plastic bag. Trim fat from steak. Score a diamond pattern on both sides of steak. Sprinkle the peppercorns over both sides of steak, pressing pepper into steak. Add steak to bag; seal and marinate in refrigerator 1 hour. Remove steak from bag; discard marinade.
2. Prepare grill.
3. Place steak on grill rack coated with cooking spray; grill 4 minutes on each side or until desired degree of doneness. Cut steak diagonally across the grain into thin slices. Yield: 4 servings (serving size: 90 gr.).
Calories 227 (52 percent from fat); fat 11.5g (sat 0.3g, mono 0.2g, poly 0.4g); protein 7.7g; carb 40.1g; fiber 3.5g; chol 1mg; iron 1.3mg; sodium 277mg; calc 13mg.

Calories 193 (7 percent from fat); fat 1.5g (sat 0.3g, mono 0.2g, poly 0.4g); protein 7.7g; carb 40.1g; fiber 3.5g; chol 1mg; iron 1.3mg; sodium 277mg; calc 13mg.

PARSNIP MASHED POTATOES

5 cups (5 cm) peeled cubed baking potato (about 900 gr.)
2 cups (5 cm) peeled cubed parsnip
4 garlic cloves
1/2 cup low-fat buttermilk
3 Tbsp. minced fresh parsley
2 Tbsp. minced fresh chives
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. black pepper

1. Combine first 3 ingredients in a large saucepan; add water to cover. Bring to a boil; cook 12 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Drain.
2. Combine first 3 ingredients in a large saucepan; add water to cover. Bring to a boil; cook 12 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Drain. Combine potato mixture, buttermilk, and remaining ingredients in a large bowl, and beat at medium speed of a mixer until smooth. Yield: 6 servings (serving size: 3/4 cup).
Calories 160 (5 percent from fat); fat 0.8g (sat 0.4g, mono 0.2g, poly 0.1g); protein 4.6g; carb 34.9g; fiber 3.6g; chol 0mg; iron 1.4mg; sodium 323mg; calc 73mg.

Robin Vitetta is a contributing editor for Cooking Light and a cookbook author.

Creators Syndicate Inc.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

more organic-minded — like in paper cartons, rather than hard plastic. Perhaps if we support their efforts, they'll be able to switch to the kind of equipment that paper carton packaging entails. NIS 8.10 for 330 ml.

Tropical mint candy drops

(fair)
Mutar ("permissible" in English) is the brand name for Elite's sugarless candies sold in coffee, mint, strawberry, lemon and apple flavors. The flavors change from time to time, and the latest one is "Tropical Mint." I personally don't like artificially sweetened candies, and can't recommend them. But if you must, these are refreshing. 100 gr. for NIS 6.30.

Prune jam (good)

Some people call it lekvar, others povidle. My grandmother used to make it by standing over the stove for hours, stirring. While it's not like my grandmother's, 778's Povidle, with a Badatz kashrut approval, is very tasty.
The 340g jar sells for NIS 9.40.

If you don't know how to use it, besides spreading it on bread or crackers, here's a recipe for a holiday cake suggested by the manufacturers:

For the dough:
2 1/2 cups flour (you can use one half cup wheat germ or whole-wheat flour as part if you like)
2 Tbsp. brandy
1 Tbsp. grated lemon zest
pinch salt
300 gr. butter or margarine

Filling: 1/2 cup povidle

Beat the butter or margarine in a mixer, and add in the flour, brandy, lemon zest and salt. Press two-thirds of the dough into a baking pan lined with parchment paper. Spread the povidle on the dough, and put the last third of the dough in a pastry bag with a wide nozzle. Use this to decorate the top with lengthwise and widthwise stripes.

(If you don't have a pastry bag, rub the remaining dough between your fingers to form crumbs and sprinkle on top). Bake in a preheated 190°C oven for 35-45 minutes.

Gold flakes (avoid)

Next time you serve your kids cereal for breakfast, read the package. If the first or second ingredient is sugar, what you're serving them is exactly that. These Gold Flakes are made of corn with various sugars, honey, refined syrup, malt syrup, and corn syrup as sweeteners, in addition to an unidentified antioxidant. In fact out of 87% carbohydrates in 100 gr. of the product, sugars represent 43%. No wonder they had to add calcium, iron, folic acid, niacin, and other vitamins and minerals to make up for it.

Even my little one with a sweet tooth found them too sweet. Your dentist will love them, however.

If your kids have concentration problems in school, I'm sure the hearty dose of refined sugars won't help. How about trying Granola? It also has sugar, but it has so many other good things too.

NIS 17.95 for 400g.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

I always enjoy reading your column in *The Jerusalem Post* and appreciate your advice (e.g. we have stopped eating lettuce!), so I was excited to see you one Shabbat on a TV food program, which, if I remember correctly, was on Channel 2. It was full of the sort of recipes I like to make. Is there a way in which I can get hold of these recipes?

Also, I sometimes find myself with leftover good-quality wine which stands for weeks in my fridge. Is there a way that I could turn it into usable vinegar? I presume that wine vinegar isn't just wine that has gone "vinegary." Or is there something else I could do with this wine?

Lonise Armon, Ra'anana

The program you saw was a repeated program. To get the recipes I suggest that you call the show's producer — Eugene at CATV, (03) 517-4473 — after the holidays.

The best thing to do with leftover wine is to use it in cooking. It will turn vinegary if you leave it at room temperature, but it won't be the kind of good vinegar that is made in controlled conditions.

My wife (who is a strict vegetarian) and I (a strict carnivore) tasted argula for the first time this May when visiting Italy. I really surprised my wife by actually enjoying it. Do you know where in Jerusalem we can find a regular supply of this interesting green leaf? And is there any special use for argula other than using it in a salad or

as a garnish?

Ardie Goldman, Efrat
Argula has always been available in Israel, but has only become popular in recent years as Italian/Mediterranean food has become more mainstream.

In Israel it is known as *roka* or *argula* and sometimes as *gargir* (though not *gargir nehalim* which is watercress). There is the small-leaved variety, but the larger-leaved variety is better. You can buy it in the souk or supermarket.

Argula is best eaten fresh in salads, but you can stir-fry it in olive oil and garlic, or mix it with spinach or Swiss chard in soups and other dishes. Just remember that, like any herb, argula must be washed several times in several changes of water. Do not soak it, however, or it will lose nutritional value.

When you give a recipe and call for a cup of something, is that an Israeli 300-ml cup or an American cup, or are they close enough to be the same?

Phyllis Weintraub, Ra'anana

When I give a recipe and call for a cup of something, I always use an American cup measure, which is 250 ml. If you don't have a measuring cup you can use an empty cottage-cheese container. I think that most recipes given here, whether they are in English or Hebrew, generally use a 250-ml cup, except on instant food packages where they tell you to add a 300-ml. cup of water. Something you might want to keep in mind, however, is that if you're working with an American recipe, the flour here is lighter than the American all-purpose flour. Here it is more like cake flour, unless you use the "All-Purpose Flour" manufactured by Sybel.

Can you tell me if the vacuum-packed, pre-washed, ready-to-eat lettuce/shredded carrots/shredded cabbage/mixed greens cur-

rently available in the cooler sections of our supermarkets retain their nutritional value?

If so, while more expensive, these appear to be worth their weight in gold in terms of convenience. Is one brand better in nutritional value than another?

Frances Barrow, Tel Aviv

From the moment it is picked, a vegetable begins to lose its nutritional value. The more it is exposed to air and light, the faster this process is.

Cutting exposes the vegetable to more light and air than leaving it intact in your refrigerator all dinner time. It is also unclear whether these prepared vegetables are soaked or washed (soaking leaches out B vitamins). But, in spite of the fact that these prepared vegetables probably do not have the same nutritional value as those you buy and cut yourself, they still retain some nutrients and do contain fiber. If buying them means you'll eat more vegetables, I'd say go for it.

What is demerara sugar? Could you inform me about its nutritional and caloric values? What is the difference between brown and demerara sugars?

Maria Vaisenbrun, Ra'anana

Demerara sugar is light brown sugar which is a more raw form of white sugar (a stage or two before it is processed into white sugar). It has the same caloric value and only slightly more minerals than white sugar (which has none). Granulated brown sugar, which is what we mostly find in this country, is processed white sugar to which molasses has been added for color.

There is also muscovado sugar available in some health-food stores. This is even less processed than demerara, but it has a stronger taste and darkens foods, which makes it unsuitable for most cakes other than brownies.

Wine Celler

Tempting new French wines

By NOGA TARNOPOLSKY

Despite the proliferation of excellent, high-quality wines from such far-flung places as New Zealand and Washington state, French wines still have an aura with which it is difficult to compete.

In some places, such as Argentina, winemakers simply try to copy French wines, even giving their products French names. When one purchases wine in one of the innumerable wine shops of Buenos Aires, it is common to ask for a Bordeaux or a Champagne. Neither is the real McCoy, but the names and the aspirations have stuck.

But gripes against mislabeling notwithstanding, there are enough real French wines here to satisfy most local wine-lovers. Here are capsule reviews of six French wines which recently arrived on local shelves.

Chateau Planeres, Cotes de Roussillon 1996: This wine has a wonderful dark cherry color and aromatic hints of wild herbs, pine and berries. It is smooth and velvety with a multilayered flavor that develops nicely in the mouth. This is a wine to accompany grilled goose or smoked meats.

Chateau Grillon Reserve 1995: The most astonishing thing about this wine is its color, which is an almost opaque black — the darkest blackberry red imaginable. It may be worth buying just for the pleasure of swirling it around in your glass. In addition,

it has a penetrating aroma with hints of berries and chocolate and a forestal but not overpowering flavor that clings to your mouth, but not interminably. Very lively.

Fronsac, Chateau de Camille 1997: This is a classic, old-fashioned Bordeaux wine, with a dark red color and a lovely aroma reminiscent of black forest berries. Its delicious flavor contains hints of cherries, wild berries and hazelnut. It is a fine, discreet wine, in the best tradition.

The following are all wines from the Giv Sager Winery:

Saumur Champigny, Marie de Roussillon 1995: A deep red leather color, with a hint of berries and currants in its aroma, this is an extremely pleasant and inviting wine. It flows smoothly and its concentrated flavors stay in the mouth for a good while. NIS 123.

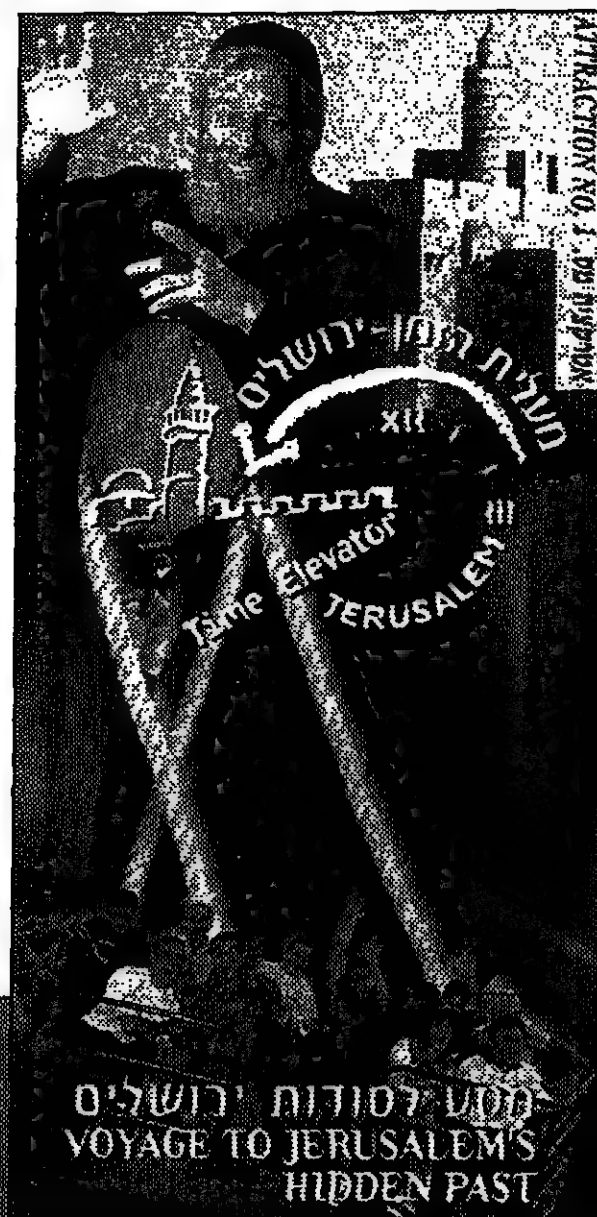
Anjou, Les Trois Saisons 1997: This wine is made from Cabernet Franc grapes and has a clear and very bright red color. You can put this light-to-medium-bodied red wine on the table at almost any occasion. It is full of life, with a vivacious bouquet of cherries, wood and slightly bitter berries. NIS 56.

Chinon, Les Tenebreuses 1997: This is another relatively light-bodied but full-flavored wine, with a deep purple color and a deliciously smooth presence in the mouth. Especially appropriate for chicken and pasta dishes. NIS 72.

501 من الامم

Thrilling, chilling trip into the past

Weekender Travel



By VIVA SARAH PRESS

What is stable except for time itself? asks Shalem, the man who guides captive audiences through Jerusalem's Time Elevator — an experience in virtual travel that is impossible to forget.

Seated on moving platforms that face three screens, audiences are treated to the latest in multimedia and simulator technologies as they peer back into Jerusalem's past.

During the fast, thrilling ride, you are all but catapulted out of your seat as you take in realistic scenes of the past — both in black-and-white and in color. A warning to "dizziness" or motion sickness should not be taken lightly. For pregnant women and children under the age of five there are stationary seats.

The elevator tumbles you through Jerusalem's history — from the time of Abraham, to the City of David, through the Crusades and into the heart of the Six Day War — and today's reality disappears. Each scene is carefully laid out and one needs only a little imagination to accept the 25-minute illusion of living in the past.

Housed in Beit Agron, the Time Elevator opened on August 20, and has had 5,000 visitors. Its manager, Yehuda Malimovka, expects 400,000 more by the end of the elevator's first year.

The voyage has been translated into Russian, French, German, English, Hebrew and Spanish, but not into Arabic.

In the cinema, once the lights go down, you are free-falling down a gaping underground hole. Wooden beams stop you from crashing into a large man with a gray beard who is wearing a black robe and kippa. It is the guide, Shalem (alias Haim Topol from *Fiddler on the Roof*), and he knows his stuff. But he's also a bit of a daredevil, so watch out.

Shalem takes you through underground tunnels to the open, barren area of Mount Moriah where Abraham is about to sacrifice Isaac. He then whooshes you into the relative future where Solomon, the great Israelite judge, is ruling on the case of the boy claimed by two mothers. Solomon decides to "cut the boy in two," prompting the real mother to save her son by giving him away. Solomon rewards her with the boy, who we find out is none other than Shalem himself.

Solomon bestows upon Shalem the gift of immortality, enabling the 2,000-year-old character to recount Jerusalem history by telling the story of his own adventure-packed life.

The elevator's next stop allows the "traveler" to watch Jeremiah unsuccessfully try to stop King Zedekiah from revolting against Babylonian rule. The aftermath is a well-choreographed but not overly graphic war scene.

A quick but harrowing ride through the era of the Maccabees and King Herod follows, and brings you up to the Second Temple. Here the audience participates in the destruction of the Temple, shifting back and forth as part of the wrecking ball before moving on to an

idol-filled Jerusalem in the midst of Aelia Capitolina.

Riding through a labyrinth of buildings and cartoon angels, one watches as the Christian faith chooses its holy sites and Shalem declares that now the "spirit of Jerusalem burns in the hearts of all who believe in the one God."

The next stop is the seventh century and the birth of Islam. The Moslems conquer Jerusalem and build the Dome of the Rock. The Crusades, at the end of the 11th century, are then quickly recounted and you soon find yourself back under Islamic rule in the Late Islamic period.

The next 400 years go by in a flash of still photographs of praying Jews mourning the loss of their glorious kingdom. According to Shalem, the solemn lamentations "If I forget thee, oh Jerusalem, let my right hand lose its cunning" and "Next year in Jerusalem" were heard from all parts of the world.

Suddenly David Ben-Gurion appears, declaring Israel's independence in 1948, and you are off and running through a series of war scenes, from the War of Independence into the Six Day War.

When you hear over a soldier's walkie-talkie that "the Temple Mount is in our hands," you can't help but let out a sigh of relief.

The Time Elevator slows and you are flying over the Jerusalem of today looking down at the awesome panoramic view of "a city of stone, a city of fire, a city of faith and hope."

The trip costs NIS 39 for adults and NIS 33 for children (5-12 years).



(Clockwise from top left) During the fast-paced ride, you are all but catapulted out of your seat as you 'travel' from the time of Abraham to the City of David, through the Crusades and into the heart of the Six Day War; your ticket to the Time Elevator; Haim Topol's Shalem is the only Jew in an idol-filled Jerusalem in the midst of Aelia Capitolina.

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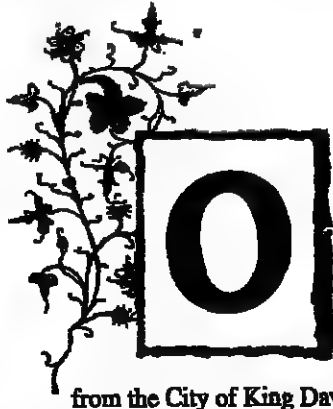
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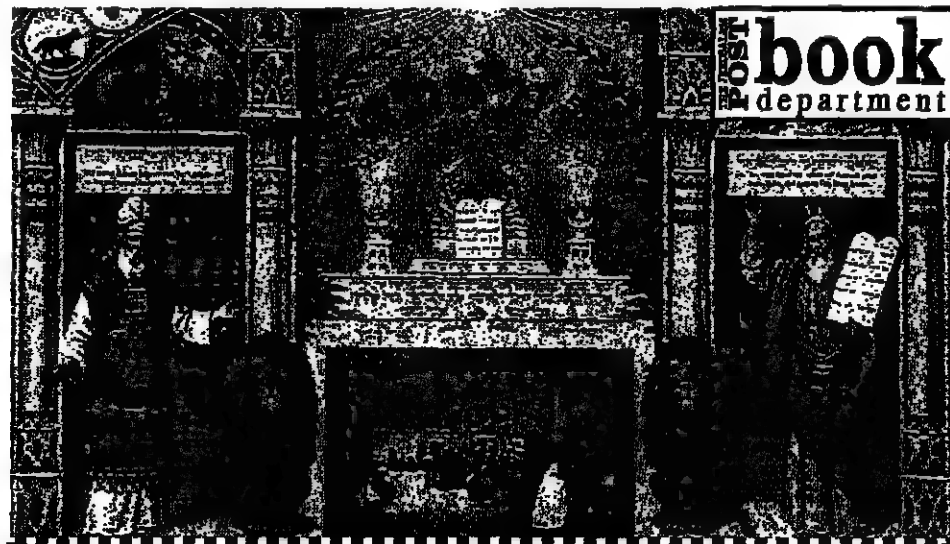
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Weekender Leisure Poetry in motion

On Camera By David Brauner

Since the dawn of the camera, the lure of speed and motion has held a very special fascination for photographers. The earliest attempts at stop-motion photography led to improvements in art, science and medicine, as well as the invention of cinematography and animated motion pictures. Long before the invention of photography, sculptors and artists adopted a variety of conventions to depict grace of movement in man and beast. Splayed limbs, contorted attitudes and spread wings suggested running, jumping and flying. Oddly enough, until someone produced the first blurred picture, no artists ever used the blur technique to indicate motion. Today, of course, it is common to see comic and cartoon figures, logos and letters set off with lines of motion and we take such conventions entirely for granted.

The earliest attempts at instantaneous photography at speeds of

1/50th of a second were only fast enough to stop the legs of people at walking speed. Nevertheless, Aaron Scharf in his book *Art and Photography* writes, "In their revelations of the complicated mechanism of walking, such photographs helped to solve the difficult problems in effectively designing artificial limbs for the amputees victimized by the American Civil War [1861-65]."

The eccentrically self-named Eadweard Muybridge, born Edward Muggeridge in 1830 near London, changed the way we see horses run. In response to California Gov. Leland Stanford's wager as to whether or not all four of a galloping horse's hooves are off the ground at once, Muybridge

conducted a series of photographic experiments at Palo Alto, on the present site of Stanford University. Using a series of 24 cameras with electrically operated shutters, Muybridge proved conclusively in 1878 that running horses become "airborne" in their stride.

French physician Jules Marey (1830-1904) became obsessed with animal locomotion and physiological functions like the heart beating. To facilitate his picture-taking, he invented the "chronograph" in 1888, which heralded the motion-picture camera. Marey's invention took a series of pictures on a 40-meter-long, non-perforated strip of negative paper.

Another early experimenter and inventor was the Polish-German photographer Ottomar Anschuetz (1846-1907). His pictures of flying storks helped unravel the secrets of wing curvature and flight. Anschuetz's work introduced the

"modern" focal-plane shutter and a kind of stroboscopic light.

ALL the interest at the end of the 19th century in capturing motion on film was matched with equal interest in showing and projecting motion on screen. American inventor Thomas Edison (1847-1931), with material support from Eastman Kodak, devised his "kinescope" in the early 1890s, which set the perforated 35 mm. film standard still used today.

The Lumiere brothers of Lyons in France perfected the "cinematographic" apparatus in 1895. The earliest motion-picture films were at most 15 meters long and lasted about one minute. In addition to showing movies of normal movement like a railway train pulling into a station, early filmmakers also produced the first time-lapse films (a flower blooming over a

period of days) and the first slow-motion sequences.

The earliest recorded stop-action studies of ballistics was a picture of a cannonball in flight made at the Woolwich Arsenal in 1866. With improvements in equipment and technique, physicists and military scientists were able to photograph air eddies and determine projectile velocities of everything from rifle bullets to large artillery shells.

Today, most of us associate pictures of speed and action primarily with sports photography. But movement is all around us in everyday life, and you don't have to be a sports photographer to incorporate the illusion of movement in your pictures.

Practically speaking, photographing moving objects takes a little practice.

The basic rule of thumb for stopping action is to set the shutter speed faster than the speed of the moving object. To minimize or avoid blur, if that is your intention, shoot from a greater distance and at a less than 90-degree angle with respect to the moving object. Use the fastest shutter speed possible, and wait for "dead points" in the motion like the highest point of a jump or the pendulum stop in a child's swing.

Slower shutter speeds produce blurred or, preferably, partially blurred images. Of course, the velocity of the moving object (say a racing car vs. a dancer) plays an important role in deciding shutter speed.

"Panning" or swinging the camera with the movement brings the moving object into sharp focus while blurring the background. Another technique is to pre-focus on a stationary point that the thing in motion passes. Keeping your eye through the viewfinder on that place, release the shutter as the action passes the point of pre-focus.

Your first tries may not exactly be poetry in motion, but with a bit of determination and practice, you'll be saying, like Prof. Higgins, "By Jove, I think she's got it."

Your photography questions and comments are welcome. Contact David Brauner, e-mail: morir@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line) or fax 02-563-7792 or do Photo Archives, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Bridge The four species of bridge players

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

North dealer
East-West vulnerable

North

♠ K 9 6
♥ 10 8 7 3
♦ A Q 7 4 2
♣ 6

West

♠ J 8 4
♥ 6 5
♦ K J 9 8
♣ K J 10 7

East

♠ Q 7 3 2
♥ Q J 4
♦ 10 6
♣ 9 8 4 3

South (Beilinson)

♠ A 10 5
♥ A K 9 2
♦ 5 3
♣ A Q 5 2

West

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Opening lead: ♥6
Are you allowed to play bridge in the succa?

"Why not?" answered my rabbi. "Is it a kosher succa?" Most people would ask if it's a kosher deck.

"On the one hand," he continued, thinking about it more religiously, "the Talmud says all card players will go to Hell. On the other hand, it says you should do all your normal day-to-day activities inside the succa, and if bridge is one of those normal activities, why not?"

I tried to point out that bridge is not a "card game" but a higher form of intellectual pursuit, but he said I should "save my arguments for the judge upstairs."

In any case, one thing you can do in your succa, if you have a large enough extension cord and phone line, is to play bridge on your computer.

Why not? Recently, I received an interesting deal that was played by Jakob Beilinson of Jerusalem on the OKbridge Internet club from his home computer, and it illustrates (if you'll excuse the seasonal pun) the four species of bridge players.

Beilinson was South with a pickup partner, and after two passes he opened the bidding one club.

Partner responded one diamond, and Beilinson jump-shifted to two hearts. This was the start of a lot of overbidding, but the end result was sensational. North jumped to four hearts and South bid Blackwood. North showed one ace and when South bid five notrump, North showed one king with his six-diamond bid. South bid six notrump (don't ask why) and now North corrected to seven hearts, which became the final contract I can't recommend the auction, but I can recommend the final result.

West led a trump, trying to give nothing away. But the lead trapped his partner's trump honors. Declarer played the 7 from dummy and East did his best by falsecarding with the queen on the first round of trumps, while Beilinson won with the ace. Even looking at all the hands, it's difficult to see how declarer can score 13 tricks.

But our hero had a little help from his opponent. At trick two, Beilinson led the ace of clubs and then ruffed a club in dummy with the 8. He next led the 3 of hearts and finessed East's jack by putting in the 9 when East followed low. Then Beilinson ruffed another club with dummy's last trump. A spade was led to the ace and the king of hearts was cashed. On this trick, West had to make a discard and he threw a fatal diamond.

Now Beilinson was able to finessé in diamonds, by leading low to the queen, cash the ace of diamonds, and ruff a diamond in his hand, setting up dummy's two small diamonds. He scored two spade tricks, six trumps, four diamonds and one club, to make his grand slam.

Now for the four species of bridge players: (1) our hero, South, the kind that makes a couple of aggressive bidding "errors," but plays his cards well and gets lucky in the end; (2) North, the kind that attaches himself to a lucky one; (3) West, the kind that makes the wrong play and then suffers the consequences, as he should; and (4) East, the kind that sits there and does nothing good or bad, but is punished anyway.

Readers may contact Matthew Granovetter by e-mail at gran@nvision.net.il

Chess Whatever happened to Bobby Fischer?

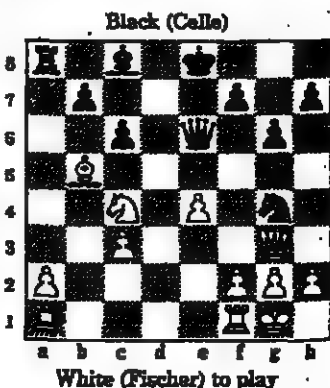
By MIGUEL SHORT

(SCENE: a party. Two previously unacquainted people engage in conversation.)
First person: So, what do you do for a living then?
Alan Shearer: I'm a footballer. First person: Football? Very interesting! But what is your job?
Alan Shearer: I play football.
First person: Yes, but can you make enough money at it?
Alan Shearer: I get by somehow. First person (after a reflective pause): Whatever happened to that Pele character?

I doubt whether the England captain has had to endure such conversations very often (if ever), but just substitute the words chess for football and Bobby Fischer for Pele and chess-players will smile in recognition. Bobby, in case you didn't know, resides in Hungary, a good 8,000 km. length from the IRS and the US State Department. Apart from a brief comeback match in 1992 (against Spassky), he has led a highly vegetative existence for the last 26 years, at least as far as chess is concerned.

One of the best books about him in recent years is *A Legend on the Road* by John Donaldson (International Chess Enterprises). It is an account of his 1964 simul tour across the US where he played close to 1900 games against various club players, scoring 94%. The current American team captain, assiduously unearthed over 50 previously unpublished games of the genius. This is not one of them, but I think you will agree, it is a fine example of his exquisite attacking style.

White: Fischer
Black: Colle
Davis (simul), 16.4.1964
1. e4 e5 2. d4 d6 3. d5 d6 4. d4 d5 5. d4 d5 6. d4 d5 7. d4 d5 8. d4 d5 9. d4 d5 10. d4 d5 11. d4 d5 12. d4 d5 13. d4 d5 14. d4 d5 15. d4 d5 16. d4 d5 17. d4 d5 18. d4 d5 19. d4 d5 20. d4 d5 21. d4 d5 22. d4 d5 23. d4 d5 24. d4 d5 25. d4 d5 26. d4 d5 27. d4 d5 28. d4 d5 29. d4 d5 30. d4 d5 31. d4 d5 32. d4 d5 33. d4 d5 34. d4 d5 35. d4 d5 36. d4 d5 37. d4 d5 38. d4 d5 39. d4 d5 40. d4 d5 41. d4 d5 42. d4 d5 43. d4 d5 44. d4 d5 45. d4 d5 46. d4 d5 47. d4 d5 48. d4 d5 49. d4 d5 50. d4 d5 51. d4 d5 52. d4 d5 53. d4 d5 54. d4 d5 55. d4 d5 56. d4 d5 57. d4 d5 58. d4 d5 59. d4 d5 60. d4 d5 61. d4 d5 62. d4 d5 63. d4 d5 64. d4 d5 65. d4 d5 66. d4 d5 67. d4 d5 68. d4 d5 69. d4 d5 70. d4 d5 71. d4 d5 72. d4 d5 73. d4 d5 74. d4 d5 75. d4 d5 76. d4 d5 77. d4 d5 78. d4 d5 79. d4 d5 80. d4 d5 81. d4 d5 82. d4 d5 83. d4 d5 84. d4 d5 85. d4 d5 86. d4 d5 87. d4 d5 88. d4 d5 89. d4 d5 90. d4 d5 91. d4 d5 92. d4 d5 93. d4 d5 94. d4 d5 95. d4 d5 96. d4 d5 97. d4 d5 98. d4 d5 99. d4 d5 100. d4 d5



White (Fischer) to play

17. Rad1! exb5 18. Qc7 Threatening mate. 19. Qd7 20. Qd5!! Smashing open the e-file. 20...g6 There was no choice. 21. Qd8 22. Qd7 23. exd5 24. Qd8 25. Qd7 26. Qd8 27. Qd7 28. Qd8 29. Qd7 30. Qd8 31. Qd7 32. Qd8 33. Qd7 34. Qd8 35. Qd7 36. Qd8 37. Qd7 38. Qd8 39. Qd7 40. Qd8 41. Qd7 42. Qd8 43. Qd7 44. Qd8 45. Qd7 46. Qd8 47. Qd7 48. Qd8 49. Qd7 50. Qd8 51. Qd7 52. Qd8 53. Qd7 54. Qd8 55. Qd7 56. Qd8 57. Qd7 58. Qd8 59. Qd7 60. Qd8 61. Qd7 62. Qd8 63. Qd7 64. Qd8 65. Qd7 66. Qd8 67. Qd7 68. Qd8 69. Qd7 70. Qd8 71. Qd7 72. Qd8 73. Qd7 74. Qd8 75. Qd7 76. Qd8 77. Qd7 78. Qd8 79. Qd7 80. Qd8 81. Qd7 82. Qd8 83. Qd7 84. Qd8 85. Qd7 86. Qd8 87. Qd7 88. Qd8 89. Qd7 90. Qd8 91. Qd7 92. Qd8 93. Qd7 94. Qd8 95. Qd7 96. Qd8 97. Qd7 98. Qd8 99. Qd7 100. Qd8

© Telegraph Group

Time on your hands

Flair

By Greer Fay Cashman

Remember when digital watches were the fad, relieving you from constantly trying to figure out where the hands of your watch were? Well, those days are temporarily over.

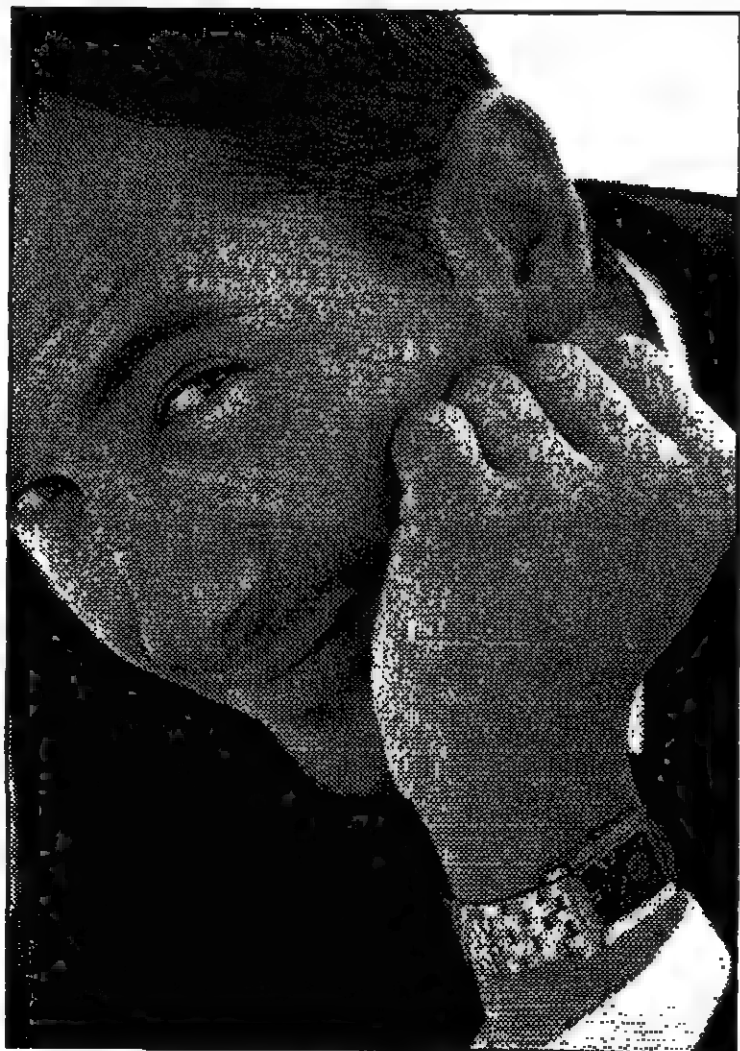
Just as former trends have been revived in fashion in general, classic timepieces are also back in vogue. Many of the world's leading watch manufacturers are featuring the old familiar rectangular and circular dials enhanced by eye-catching, wide-banded metal bracelets or broad leather straps.

Many of the watches for women are slightly smaller versions of traditionally masculine designs.

Ebel, founded in 1911 by Jewish entrepreneurs and artisans Eugene and Alice Blum in the Swiss watch-making capital of La Chaux-de-Fonds, is famous for its exquisitely designed precision watches. One of its better-known watches is the Beluga, considered to be the most sophisticated of its ladies' watches. Made exclusively in gold since it was launched in 1985, the Beluga is bowing to changing times, and the latest version is the Steel Beluga, slightly larger than the original model, yet a little more discreet. Available in several versions, with or without a setting of diamonds, it has the quiet elegance that one expects of quality Swiss watches.

The more veteran Tissot company, which has been around since 1853, offers its clients the best of both worlds. The updated version of its famous water-resistant Two Timer has a numbered rectangular dial plus a digital back-up in a stainless-steel case. It comes with a choice of steel bracelets or colored leather straps.

Tissot's lightweight Titanium Seven is also water resistant and features a dark face with the



(Above) The shock-proof DolceVita by Longines comes with Arabic or Roman numerals, and stainless-steel bracelets or leather straps; (From top) Calvin Klein's Swiss-made debut collection for women is distinguished with the ck logo; Tissot's updated version of its famous water-resistant Two Timer; the new Speedmaster Professional X-33 by Omega, designed in coordination with astronauts, cosmonauts and pilots; the quietly elegant Steel Beluga, available with or without a setting of diamonds.

Also in the current collection is the Ballade Antiquartz with just a Roman 12, and the PR 200 Aquatic which is a 60-minute watch with sections of 12, 15, 30, 45, 60, 75, 90, 105, 120, 135, 150, 165, 180, 195, 210, 225, 240, 255, 270, 285, 300, 315, 330, 345, 360, 375, 390, 405, 420, 435, 450, 465, 480, 495, 510, 525, 540, 555, 570, 585, 600, 615, 630, 645, 660, 675, 690, 705, 720, 735, 750, 765, 780, 795, 810, 825, 840, 855, 870, 885, 900, 915, 930, 945, 960, 975, 990, 1005, 1020, 1035, 1050, 1065, 1080, 1095, 1110, 1125, 1140, 1155, 1170, 1185, 1200, 1215, 1230, 1245, 1260, 1275, 1290, 1305, 1320, 1335, 1350, 1365, 1380, 1395, 1410, 1425, 1440, 1455, 1470, 1485, 1500, 1515, 1530, 1545, 1560, 1575, 1590, 1605, 1620, 1635, 1650, 1665, 1680, 1695, 1710, 1725, 1740, 1755, 1770, 1785, 1800, 1815, 1830, 1845, 1860, 1875, 1890, 1905, 1920, 1935, 1950, 1965, 1980, 1995, 2010, 2025, 2040, 2055, 2070, 2085, 2100, 2115, 2130, 2145, 2160, 2175, 2190, 2205, 2220, 2235, 2250, 2265, 2280, 2295, 2310, 2325, 2340, 2355, 2370, 2385, 2400, 2415, 2430, 2445, 2460, 2475, 2490, 2505, 2520, 2535, 2550, 2565, 2580, 2595, 2610, 2625, 2640, 2655, 2670, 2685, 2700, 2715, 2730, 2745, 2760, 2775, 2790, 2805, 2820, 2835, 2850, 2865, 2880, 2895, 2910, 2925, 2940, 2955, 2970, 2985, 3000, 3015, 3030, 3045, 3060, 3075, 3090, 3105, 3120, 3135, 3150, 3165, 3180, 3195, 3210, 3225, 3240, 3255, 3270, 3285, 3300, 3315, 3330, 3345, 3360, 3375, 3390, 3405, 3420, 3435, 3450, 3465, 3480, 3495, 3510, 3525, 3540, 3555, 3570, 3585, 3600, 3615, 3630, 3645, 3660, 3675, 3690, 3705, 3720, 3735, 3750, 3765, 3780, 3795, 3810, 3825, 3840, 3855, 3870, 3885, 3900, 3915, 3930, 3945, 3960, 3975, 3990, 4005, 4020, 4035, 4050, 4065, 4080, 4095, 4110, 4125, 4140, 4155, 4170, 4185, 4200, 4215, 4230, 4245, 4260, 4275, 4290, 4305, 4320, 4335, 4350, 4365, 4380, 4395, 4410, 4425, 4440, 4455, 4470, 4485, 4500, 4515, 4530, 4545, 4560, 4575, 4590, 4605, 4620, 4635, 4650, 4665, 4680, 4695, 4710, 4725, 4740, 4755, 4770, 4785, 4800, 4815, 4830, 4845, 4860, 4875, 4890, 4905, 4920, 4935, 4950, 4965, 4980, 4995, 5010, 5025, 5040, 5055, 5070, 5085, 5100, 5115, 5130, 5145, 5160, 5175, 5190, 5205, 5220, 5235, 5250, 5265, 5280, 5295, 5310, 5325, 5340, 5355, 5370, 5385, 5400, 5415, 5430, 5445, 5460, 5475, 5490, 5505, 5520, 5535, 5550, 5565, 5580, 5595, 5610, 5625, 5640, 5655, 5670, 5685, 5700, 5715, 5730, 5745, 5760, 5775, 5790, 5805, 5820, 5835, 5850, 5865, 5880, 5895, 591

Thursday,
October 8, 1998

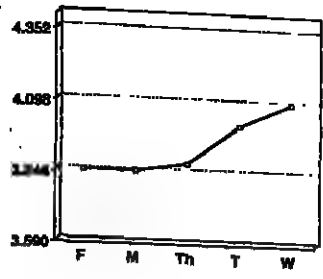
BUSINESS & FINANCE

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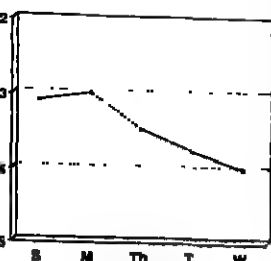
BUSINESS

in brief

DOLLAR / SHEKEL

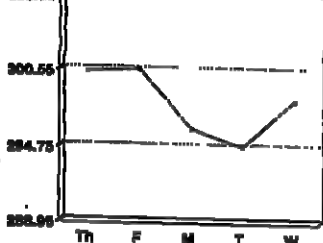


MAOF INDEX



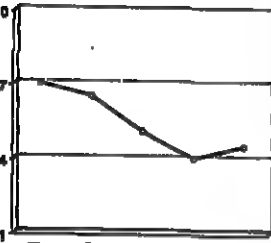
GOLD

\$ per ounce

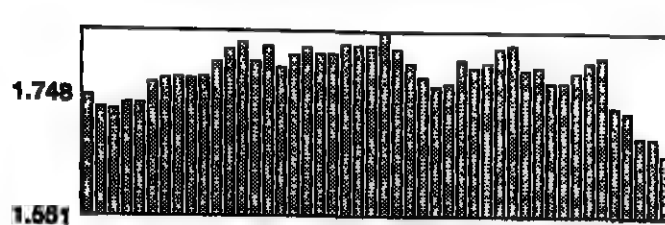


OIL

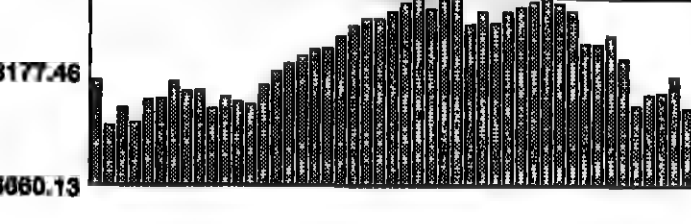
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



New Tel Aviv - Jerusalem rail line by 2010

Israel Railways will next week present a plan for the construction of a new rail line between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem by the year 2010, the authority announced yesterday.

The program, to be presented at the Prime Minister's Jubilee Summit, will also include detailed proposals for the construction of lines from Petah Tikva via Kfar Sava to Tel Aviv and from the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Akaba. It also calls for the creation of links to Beirut, Damascus, Amman, Akaba, and Cairo, as well as a Tulkarm-Gaza line. Israel Railways is looking to invest some \$2 billion by 2010, the vast majority of which would come from foreign investment.

David Zev Harris

Scitex buys Matan activities for \$10.5m.

Scitex Corporation announced yesterday that it has signed an agreement to purchase Rosh Ha'ayin-based Matan's super-wide-format digital printing activities for \$10.5 million.

The business being acquired will be integrated into Idanit Technologies Ltd., a company bought by Scitex, based in Herzliya, in February for \$60m. Matan's technology can be used to make billboards and is considered to be a complement to Idanit's wide-format digital printing division, thus offering complete solutions to customers.

Nina Gilbert

Japan plans \$78b. bank package

By NAKO ASO

TOKYO (Bloomberg)

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party sent to parliament legislation that would inject 10 trillion yen (\$78 billion) of public funds into solvent banks, a key ingredient missing from a package of bank bills passed last week.

The LDP won the backing of the second-largest opposition party yesterday, giving it enough votes to pass the bills and get public money in the hands of banks so they can grease the wheels of the economy with more loans.

"We expect the new legislation would accelerate the reorganization of the banking industry," said Keiichi Ishi, deputy secretary-general of the New Peace Party. His and other opposition parties had previously objected to taxpayer money going to solvent banks.

Progress in the banking legislation, as well as a pledge by Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi to spend trillions of yen more on the econ-

omy, sent Japanese stocks soaring. The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index surged 6.17 percent to 13,825.61, its biggest one-day gain this year.

"Stock markets were encouraged by progress on the banking bills," said Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiromu Nonaka at a press conference.

The LDP's bills allow healthy banks, defined as those with capital equal to 8% of assets, to get public money when they take over failed banks, agree to merge with or absorb weaker financial institutions or there exist "drastic and grave" concerns about the state of the banking system.

That last point is one reason the leading opposition party has not backed the LDP proposal.

It is "vague and unclear," said Naoto Kan, head of the Democratic Party.

"With this plan, Japan would repeat the mistake of doing too little too late," said Kan at a press conference. "It would not help our

country ease the credit crunch."

In February, Japan set aside 13 trillion yen to boost the capital of solvent banks. But opposition parties demanded last month the fund be abolished and replaced with one with stricter controls. The new plan would make available 10 trillion yen to be used by March 31.

The New Peace Party agreed to vote for the new legislation because the LDP added stronger financial reporting requirements that would urge banks to restructure their operations, Ishi said.

Under the LDP plan, once the banking system stabilizes, banks will be obliged to disclose stockholdings based on whichever is less — the current market price or the purchase price.

Under the present bank law, loans are divided into four categories based on their risk level; category one is the safest. The proposed bill mandates that lenders subdivide category two loans, allowing more precision in assessing a bank's health.

The LDP also proposed that the government set criteria of loan-loss reserves for category three problem loans — those seen as little possibility of being recovered — and category four loans, which are deemed unrecoverable.

The Democrats, who haven't signed onto the LDP plan, want banks to report portfolio losses based on the lower of market or purchase price immediately. The party also called for stricter rules on loan-loss reserve requirements. It said banks should set aside 15% of loan-loss reserves for category two loans, and 75% of loan-loss reserves for category three loans.

"Our banking system will not recover credibility unless we assess losses and problem loans accurately," said Yukio Edano, policy chief of the Democratic Party.

Meanwhile, Bank of Japan Governor Masaru Hayami said he was misquoted in the media earlier this week as saying capital at Japanese banks had fallen to dan-

gerously low levels.

"There were reports based on a misunderstanding, which caused trouble for me," Hayami told an upper house finance committee.

Hayami was indirectly quoted by *The New York Times* on Monday as telling US officials that capital at the Japan's banks was at dangerously low levels. Japanese media carried reports on *The New York Times* article.

Hayami today said he told US officials that Japan's 19 major banks don't have enough capital to clean up all of their bad loans.

As of June 30, Japan's 19 banks had 372 trillion yen (\$2.86 b.) in outstanding loans, while they had only 15 trillion yen in capital available for bad-loan disposal, or 4% of the total, Hayami said.

Hayami met with US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan in Washington last weekend at a gathering of finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven industrialized nations.



New cell-phone operator starts operations

Communications Minister Limor Livnat (center), Orange-Partner Communications CEO Amikam Cohen (right), and Matav chairman Shmuel Dankner attend yesterday's official launch of the third cellular-phone operator, Orange. Partner paid the government \$400 million for the license, issued in February, to operate the country's first GSM network and is investing an additional \$600m. In establishing the network, the company made its "soft launch" in which a limited number of subscribers can use the system while the network, whose dialing codes are 054 and 055, is tested. The network is to make its full launch in January. Hailing the event as "a great day for the Israeli consumer," Livnat said increased competition will result in better prices, services, and choice.

(Text: Nina Gilben)

Greenspan: Market mayhem to dampen US growth

By DAVE SKIDMORE

WASHINGTON (AP) — The US economy is in "reasonable shape," Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said yesterday, but added there has been a marked shift in investor psychology and that turmoil overseas would clearly dampen growth.

Greenspan, noted for his gloomy and pessimistic pronouncements, poked fun at newspaper headlines that he said give the impression the economy is on the verge of collapse.

"We are still seeing fairly significant continued momentum," he told the National Association for Business Economics. "We've got an economy that as of now is really quite an impressive sight."

However, Greenspan, who two years ago began warning about "irrational exuberance" in financial markets, said there has been a dramatic shift toward risk aversion and a greatly increased desire for liquid — easily bought and sold — investments.

"If there was a dime to turn on, it did," he said.

The Federal Reserve last week released a survey showing large banks had tightened credit standards for large business borrowers, as a result of increased risk aversion. However, Greenspan said, "We are far short of anything that would resemble a credit crunch in the United States. It's by no means evident this is having a significant impact."

He estimated that the stock market decline since midsummer, partly offset by increased bond prices, had destroyed \$1.5 trillion in consumer and business wealth. He said that is bound to slow spending in the future.

"It's got to show up somewhere," he said. "We're bound to see a major impact in personal consumption expenditures and housing."

Because of the uncertainty, Greenspan said, Federal Reserve policy-makers will remain "especially alert." Last week, they cut a benchmark short-term interest rate by a quarter percentage point.

SHEKEL

Continued from Page 1

"What is happening now to the shekel is a reflection of what is happening to the global economy," he told Israel Radio, adding that "a great deal of dust has gathered in the air, and we must first allow it to settle."

Central bank insiders believe that if the current market mayhem will not have subsided next month, Frenkel will have the central bank raise its lending rates, rather than interfere in trading, which would entail selling dollars, thus raising the shekel's exchange rate artificially and momentarily.

On the global markets, the dollar yesterday registered its steepest one-day plunge against the Japanese yen in 25 years, and the Nikkei recorded its largest daily rise this year, after the Japanese government finally handed parliament a blueprint for a \$78b. rescue plan for its ailing banking system.

Despite the shekel's loss of altitude — which has been generally welcomed by the business sector — the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange also fell yesterday, with the Maof

E-commerce could decimate tax coffers

By NEIL WINTON

LONDON (Reuters) — The Internet not only promises unprecedented power to communicate and do business across the world, it also threatens tax avoidance on an heroic scale.

Government ministers from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development member states meet in Ottawa, Canada today and tomorrow, saying they wish to oil the gears of business transacted over the Internet, known as "electronic commerce."

But some experts say governments have a hidden agenda. They experts say governments are terrified the Internet will destroy their ability to tax and control. The OECD meeting is a last-ditch, not to mention futile, attempt to assert control over the Internet, they say.

"Electronic trading is a terrifying prospect for governments. They can see tax revenues slipping away like sand going through their fingers," said Prof. Ian Angell of the London School of Economics.

Electronic commerce promises border-free, almost instantaneous global trading. Cybersmarts can sit at their personal computers at home in say, Rome, and with the click of a mouse, buy books, CDs, software, and a wide range of goods from a site on the World Wide Web in perhaps Denver.

If the transaction is between an individual and a small business, there would be little incentive to record the deal. Sales tax, even if experts could decide how much should be paid and where, would easily be shrugged aside.

Recently published research by IDC of the US predicts an explosion in economic commerce.

Spending by business on information technology to build an online presence will hit \$954 billion in 2002, up from \$211b. in 1998.

Web users world wide will reach 320 million by 2002 compared with 97 million in 1998.

web will reach \$425b. by 2002, up from \$32b. in 1998, according to IDC.

The IDC research does give some hope to OECD governments that they might be able to protect tax revenues in the short term.

"Seventy percent of electronic commerce over the next five years will transacted business-to-business," Patrick McGovern, chairman of IDC parent International Data Group, said.

Many large businesses conducting business over the Internet, such as IBM, have pledged to pay all taxes wherever they fall due on their cyberspace dealings.

But according to McGovern, business domination of electronic commerce is likely to give way to an avalanche of mass market deals about five years from now. Individuals and small companies are likely to be less scrupulous than IBM in declaring tax liability.

OECD officials say, however, that not only will tax income be forthcoming from electronic commerce, governments are also keen to help its development.

"We believe existing taxation rules can be applied to this new form of doing business. We consider it offers an attractive base for tax authorities, but we want to make sure electronic commerce develops and that this doesn't act as a barrier," said Jeffrey Owens, head of fiscal affairs at the OECD, in a telephone interview from his Paris office.

Agreeing on a tax regime that will work is easier said than done, according to Mike Perkins, international tax expert at Deloitte & Touche.

He expects OECD ministers to agree that value added tax or sales tax should be paid in the country of consumption. That might work if a deal was between two big companies, but would be unlikely to generate much income if individuals had to declare the tax on goods that had been bought free of tax.

"I've got great sympathy for

those defining a practical solution. It's almost impossible, Perkins said.

Some governments have more pressing concerns than others. US federal revenues come mainly from corporate or personal income taxes. Europe depends more on sales taxes, with about 30 percent from value added tax, according to experts.

The ability of countries to levy tax will depend on their success in exerting control.

"European governments are of two minds. They don't want to be left behind and be viewed as anti-progressive; they've come up with lots of initiatives to encourage PCs. But their inability to control electronic commerce will decrease ability to levy taxes," said Doug Aldrich of US consultants A.T. Kearney.

"By denying access, you exert control. People can access the Internet with or without government permission, unless you own the country like Cuba," Aldrich said.

Angell also says governments will have difficulty imposing control. "I've been pushing the idea of off-planar commerce. Basically the delivery mechanism is a satellite. The business can be registered anywhere," Angell said.

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Trans-Israel Highway work delayed until year's end

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Road-laying work on the Trans-Israel Highway will not begin until the end of the year, despite the government's original intention for it to start in August, a spokeswoman for the franchise-holding Derech Eretz consortium confirmed yesterday.

"August has already passed and this is still waiting for approval from Cross-Israel Highway [the company managing the project for the government]," she said.

The spokeswoman denied a claim yesterday by campaigners against the road that there is a quarrel between the consortium and Bank Hapoalim over funding for the project.

While she admitted the financing arrangements will only be finalized in late November, she dismissed the Forum for Public Transport's suggestion that Bank Hapoalim is offering interest on its loan of inflation plus 6 percent, a figure the forum said is unacceptable to Derech Eretz.

"It's simply not 6%," said the spokeswoman. "There is an agreement regarding the interest rate, that's not a problem. It's just something that takes time given the complex processes involved."

However, Cross-Israel Highway's spokesman last night confirmed that the issue of interest is still outstanding. "The financial closing has still to be completed,"

he said. "There are a thousand and one issues that needed sorting in this contract, which is after all for 30 years. [The interest rate] is one of those issues they're still speaking about."

With regard to the delay in construction, the spokesman said his company would rather wait one or two months than begin now and cut corners that might endanger drivers in the long run.

At a press conference yesterday the coalition of groups fighting the road's construction said it is considering a series of measures, including legal action in the High Court of Justice and possibly undermining the planned route to prevent work on the 90-km toll road.

TEACUP

Continued from Page 1

The globality of today's markets, which respond to anything and everything from bad debts in Japan and mispredicted coffee crops in Brazil to unpaid salaries in Russia and political instability in Indonesia, means that ignorant analysts who jumped head-on into the boiling waters of the so-called emerging markets are now learning — the hard way — which of them really were sufficiently mature.

When the current excitement is over, they will have been reminded that lumping Israel's economic advantages together with, say, Thailand's was absurd by any financial yardstick.

Similarly, the Bank of Israel should have no qualms, whether in terms of its legal mandate or its proven nerve, to effectively reverse an ongoing devaluation

the shekel's plunge be considered excessive.

What all this means for small-time investors is that they should leave their long- and medium-term financial behavior as is, and at best readjust some of their short-term plans.

In housing, which is still dollar-denominated, tenants are in for a nominal rent rise within existing contracts. However, whether new contracts will really be adjusted mechanically according to the new exchange rate has yet to be seen. As home buyers and contractors have proven over the past two years, what really defined — rather than described — prices was not the exchange rate, but the extent to which demand and supply matched each other.

The very same is true of such imported goods as cars, appliances, and travel packages.

For the tabloids to scream, as they did

"sharply" is true, for now, but only up to the price-tag level.

Whether it also passes to the wallet stage has yet to be seen. If, for instance, market trends reverse in upcoming weeks — as they might after, say, a 75-basis-point rate cut in the US, a broadly discussed prospect which would deal a blow to the dollar's attractiveness — all bets are off.

In savings, what all this means is that average wage earner, rather than fleeing the shekel-denominated plans they have been embracing in recent years, might do well to hedge — mainly for short-term needs — by depositing some savings in dollar-denominated plans. But they should always remember that in today's economy, the shekel's interest yields can always change beyond recognition.

Indeed, to jump from one market crisis, let alone one which is by no means Israeli, to 1074

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SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TASE slumps to 17-month low

Tel Aviv

The TASE's benchmark stock index fell to a 17-month low, led by Bank Leumi Le-Israel Ltd. and other banks, as the shekel weakened further against the dollar and equity markets declined in Europe.

The Maof Index of the 25 largest companies fell 2.01 percent to 261.47, its lowest since April 20, 1997. Bank Leumi, Israel's second-largest bank by assets, dropped 3.28% to NIS 5.02.

Traders said the devaluation of the shekel, which weakened another 2% after crossing the threshold of NIS 4 to the dollar yesterday, was hurting stocks. A weakening shekel increases the cost of dollar borrowings for Israeli banks, reduces the value of shekel-denominated assets and may lead to an interest-rate rise that could hurt company earnings.

"These are big jumps. They're not just little adjustments from the shekel's value each day," said Ron Weisberg, a trader at Israel Brokerage and Securities Ltd. "Together with what's going on in Europe, it's making people kind of nervous about the Israeli market."

The Bloomberg Europe 500 Index was last down 1.20%.

Here, Bank Leumi's shares were being sold by investors who bought them two weeks ago when the government put up a 15% stake in the bank for public sale, traders said.

Israel Discount Bank Ltd. fell 5.14% to NIS 3.14 after the gov-

ernment dismissed speculation it might delay a private sale of a controlling stake in the country's third-largest bank.

Among industrial stock, Dead Sea Bromine Ltd., which makes flame-retardant products and agrochemicals, fell 3.07% to NIS 19.26. Its parent company, Israel Chemicals Ltd., was downgraded by Lehman Brothers last week to an "outperform" rating from "buy."

The shekel has lost 13.3% of its value against the dollar and 23.9% against the deutsche mark since the beginning of the year. It was recently trading at 4.09% to the dollar, 2.11% below yesterday.

Bank Hapoalim Ltd., Israel's No. 1 bank by assets, fell 1.78% to NIS 8.85. On October 1, the bank's controlling shareholders were given a week's extension on an option to boost their stake in Bank Hapoalim 7.16 percentage points to about 48% by buying government-owned shares.

Asia

Japan's benchmark stock index recorded its biggest rise this year as the government hammered out the final details of legislation to bolster banks' capital and began work on a new economic recovery program.

Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd., the country's biggest bank, and Mitsubishi Estate Co., its second-largest property developer, led the rally on expectations the government will spend trillions of yen to ease a credit crunch and stimulate

STOCKS

Maof 261.47 ▼ 2.01%

Dow Jones 7741 ▼ 0.02%

FTSE 4828.9 ▼ 0.52%

Nikkei 13825.61 ▲ 6.17%

The Nikkei 225 index rose 803.97 points, or 6.17%, to 13,825.61 — its largest percentage gain since November 17, 1997. As recently as Monday the benchmark closed at 12,948.12, its lowest level since January 1986.

The broader Topix index of all shares on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange gained 50.03 points, or 5.02%, to 1,046.98.

Shares of Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi gained 100 yen to 960, Sumitomo Bank Ltd. advanced 100 yen to 1,040 and Sanwa Bank Ltd. rose 100 yen to 775 on expectations that even the best-capitalized banks will receive public funds to compensate for bad-loan write-offs and losses on the value of their investment portfolios.

The government and opposition leaders reached an agreement that will ensure passage of a controversial plan to boost banks' capital by the end of the current parliamentary session on October 16, the Nihon Keizai newspaper reported.

Europe

UK stocks fell for the fifth time in six days as oil companies and others that rely on exports fell on concern that slowing global growth and a tumbling dollar will hit profits.

An early rally sputtered as Shell Transport & Trading Co. and other international companies dropped. British Petroleum Plc fell 13.5p to 854.5, and Shell, the British arm of Royal Dutch/Shell Group, the world's largest publicly traded oil company, slid 15.5p to 355.

"I still think we're in a bear market and it could still go lower," said Peter Hewitt, the head of investment research at Murray Johnstone, which has about \$3.4 billion invested in the UK equity market. Hewitt said "it's too early" to buy stocks affected by moves in interest rates.

The UK's benchmark FTSE 100 Index slipped 25.1 points, or 0.52%, to 4,828.9, after rising as high as 4,949.5, a gain of 95.5 points. Banks led the gainers on hopes the Bank of England will cut interest rates tomorrow. Barclays Plc rose 15p to 995 and National Westminster Bank Plc added 23p to 794.

Fifty-seven stocks fell in the FTSE 100, while 44 rose and one remained unchanged.

The dollar suffered its biggest loss against the yen in more than 25 years, tumbling 6%, while it slumped more than 1% to a 20-month low against the deutsche mark.

Wall Street

The Dow industrials pulled off a sharp turnaround for the third time in four sessions, but the Nasdaq fell to a new low for the year as big-name technology stocks extended this week's plunge.

The Dow Jones industrial average gave back an early 115-point gain and slid as much as 113 points before reversing course and closing just 129 points lower at 7,741.69.

The Nasdaq composite index fell more than 3 percent, plunging below 1,500 for the first time since the August 31 market selloff. In just three sessions, the Nasdaq lost 152 points, or 9.4%.

By contrast, it was the third time since Friday that the Dow has rebounded just as the barometer sank back toward its summer time lows, suggesting that investors are more comfortable with blue-chip valuations at these levels.

The Standard and Poor's 500 fell 13.91 to 970.68, and the Nasdaq composite fell 48.28 to 1,462.61.

Declining issues outnumbered advancers by a 2-to-1 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,015 up, 2,131 down, and 402 unchanged. Nasdaq decliners fell by more than a 3-to-1 ratio.

NYSE volume totaled a hefty 964.50 million shares as of 4 p.m., up from 835.73 million at the same point Tuesday.

The NYSE composite index fell 6.83 to 484.68, and the American Stock Exchange composite index fell 7.32 to 585.77. The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies fell 10.32 to 322.23. (AP)

| LAST | CHANGE |
|------------------------|---------|
| Telefonos de Mer | -1.5 |
| Telcel de Espana | -11.25 |
| Telcel de Mexico | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Peru | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Chile | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Colombia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Argentina | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Brazil | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de India | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de China | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Russia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de South Africa | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Australia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de New Zealand | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Hong Kong | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Taiwan | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Korea | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Japan | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Thailand | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Malaysia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Singapore | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Indonesia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Philippines | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Vietnam | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Laos | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Cambodia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Myanmar | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Brunei | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de Timor | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de East Timor | -1.6875 |
| Telcel de West Timor | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Mer | -1.5 |
| Telcel of Espana | -11.25 |
| Telcel of Mexico | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Peru | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Chile | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Colombia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Argentina | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Brazil | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of India | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of China | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Russia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of South Africa | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Australia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of New Zealand | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Hong Kong | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Taiwan | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Korea | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Japan | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Thailand | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Malaysia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Singapore | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Indonesia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Philippines | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Vietnam | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Laos | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Cambodia | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Myanmar | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Brunei | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of Timor | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of East Timor | -1.6875 |
| Telcel of West Timor | -1.6875 |

| LAST | CHANGE |
|--------------------|--------|
| Baye | -50 |
| Daimler-Benz | -117.5 |
| Lufthansa | -31 |
| Manneberg | -117.5 |
| Metallgesellschaft | -25.3 |
| Volkswagen | -104 |

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 7-OCT-98)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

| LAST | CHANGE |
|---------------------|---------|
| Sel (Basket) (1) | -1.00 |
| U.S. Dollar (1) | -0.0025 |
| British Pound (1) | -0.0025 |
| Deutsche Mark (1) | -0.0025 |
| French Franc (1) | -0.0025 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | -0.0025 |
| Swiss Franc (1) | -0.0025 |
| Canadian Dollar (1) | -0.0025 |
| Italian Lira (1000) | -0.0025 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | -0.0025 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | -0.0025 |

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

| LAST | CHANGE |
|-------------------|--------|
| DJ Industrials | -15.45 |
| DJ Transport | -15.45 |
| DJ Utilities | -15.45 |
| DJ Comp | -15.45 |
| DJ Energy | -15.45 |
| DJ Health | -15.45 |
| DJ Tech | -15.45 |
| DJ Tel | -15.45 |
| DJ Media | -15.45 |
| DJ Retail | -15.45 |
| DJ Food | -15.45 |
| DJ Drug | -15.45 |
| DJ Auto | -15.45 |
| DJ Home | -15.45 |
| DJ Leisure | -15.45 |
| DJ Travel | -15.45 |
| DJ Education | -15.45 |
| DJ Government | -15.45 |
| DJ Defense | -15.45 |
| DJ Aerospace | -15.45 |
| DJ Chemical | -15.45 |
| DJ Pharmaceutical | -15.45 |
| DJ Biotech | -15.45 |
| DJ Environmental | -15.45 |
| DJ Energy | -15.45 |
| DJ Health | -15.45 |
| DJ Tech | -15.45 |
| DJ Tel | -15.45 |
| DJ Media | -15.45 |
| DJ Retail | -15.45 |
| DJ Food | -15.45 |
| DJ Drug | -15.45 |
| DJ Auto | -15.45 |
| DJ Home | -15.45 |
| DJ Leisure | -15.45 |
| DJ Travel | -15.45 |
| DJ Education | -15.45 |
| DJ Government | -15.45 |
| DJ Defense | -15.45 |
| DJ Aerospace | -15.45 |
| DJ Chemical | -15.45 |
| DJ Pharmaceutical | -15.45 |
| DJ Biotech | -15.45 |
| DJ Environmental | -15.45 |

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

| LAST | CHANGE |
|------------|--------|
| FTSE 100 | -25.1 |
| FTSE 250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 350 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 450 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 500 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 550 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 600 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 650 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 700 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 750 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 800 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 850 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1300 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1350 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1450 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1500 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1550 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1600 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1650 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1700 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1750 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1800 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1850 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 1950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2300 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2350 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2450 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2500 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2550 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2600 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2650 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2700 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2750 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2800 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2850 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 2950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3300 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3350 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3450 | -15.45 |
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| FTSE 3750 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3800 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3850 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 3950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4300 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4350 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4450 | -15.45 |
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| FTSE 4800 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4850 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 4950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5300 | -15.45 |
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| FTSE 5400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5450 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 5500 | -15.45 |
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| FTSE 6000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 6050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 6100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 6150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 6200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 6250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 6300 | -15.45 |
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| FTSE 6900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 6950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7300 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7350 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7450 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7500 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7550 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7600 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7650 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7700 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7750 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7800 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7850 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 7950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8300 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8350 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8450 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8500 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8550 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8600 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8650 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8700 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8750 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8800 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8850 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 8950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9000 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9050 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9100 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9150 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9200 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9250 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9300 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9350 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9400 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9450 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9500 | -15.45 |
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| FTSE 9600 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9650 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9700 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9750 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9800 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9850 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9900 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 9950 | -15.45 |
| FTSE 10000 | -15.45 |

Maccabi set to post season's first EuroLeague victory

By ELI GRONER

After an 0-2 start in EuroLeague play, Maccabi Tel Aviv looks to get its first win in a road game against TDK Manresa in Spain tonight.

Tonight's game is just what the doctor ordered for Maccabi: A relatively weak opponent on the road, which should provide a confidence-building away victory, while enabling the Israelis to get away from the pressure of a disappointed and impatient Tel Avivian crowd.

Which is not to say that tonight's win is a given: Manresa's (1-1) road to the EuroLeague

was paved by beating teams that were superior to them on paper. After finishing last season's Spanish league in only sixth place, Manresa upset Estudiantes and Real Madrid, before shocking first-place TDK Vitoria, 3-1, in the best-of-five Spanish finals.

However, much of last year's success was built on foreigners Derrick Alston, Herb Jones and Brian Salier. None of the foreigners stayed with the club, and their replacements - Terquin Mot and Sharon Milles (who was turned down by Maccabi) haven't been as successful. Manresa is currently 2-4 in the Spanish league and is mired in 14th place.

Meanwhile, Maccabi enters tonight's game

with problems of its own. Willie Anderson and Nikolai Lunar have both been disappointing, and coach Yoram Harush hasn't done anything towards forming a set rotation. The starting five is constantly subject to debate and the bench players aren't sure of their roles.

One example is Guy Goodes. He has been touted as a potential starting point guard, starting shooting guard, first man off the bench and last man off the bench.

Historically, this lack of defined roles has been one of Maccabi's major problems. Unless something drastic changes in the near future, this year could be more of the same.

Okun reaches quarters in Rabin ATP tourney

By HEATHER CHAIT

Noam Okun reached the quarter finals of the Yitzhak Rabin Men's Challenger (\$50,000) in Ramat Hasharon yesterday, after beating fellow Israeli Oren Motevassel.

Okun, a wildcard entry, defeated Motevassel 6-0, 6-4.

This win, coming a day after Okun beat Harel Levy in the first round, means that Okun has upset Israel's top two ranked players on the ATP Tour.

Top seed Gianluca Pozzi from Italy suffered a surprise first set loss to Ofer Sela before scaling the match at 3-6, 7-6, 6-3.

In the other second round matches yesterday, eighth seed Vladimir Voltchkov from Bulgaria beat Germany's Markus Hantschk 6-3, 6-2 and Czech Michal Tabara beat Istok Bozic from Slovenia 6-4, 6-4.

In the doubles, Amir Hadad and Volchchkov beat Spaniards Juan Ignacio Carrasco and Jairo Velasco 7-6, 6-3 and Okun, together with Nir Welgreen, beat Yoni Erlich and Andy Ram 3-6, 6-4, 7-6.

Harel Levy and Eyal Ran went down to Neville Godwin and David Nankin from South Africa 7-5, 6-3.

AP's top 25 college football teams

The Top Twenty Five teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, recorded through October 3. Total points based on 25 points for a first place vote through one point for a 25th place vote and ranking in previous poll.

| Rank | Team | Points | Record |
|------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| 1 | Ole Miss (56) | 1,746 | 1-0 |
| 2 | Nebbraska (1) | 1,640 | 2-0 |
| 3 | UCLA (1) | 1,575 | 4-0 |
| 4 | Tennessee | 1,541 | 4-0 |
| 5 | Kansas St. (2) | 1,518 | 3-0 |
| 6 | Florida | 1,326 | 4-0 |
| 7 | Georgia | 1,313 | 12-0 |
| 8 | Florida St. | 1,235 | 9-0 |
| 9 | Virginia | 1,219 | 10-0 |
| 10 | Arizona | 1,043 | 14-0 |
| 11 | LSU | 1,010 | 6-0 |
| 12 | Wisconsin | 897 | 7-0 |
| 13 | Penn St. | 894 | 7-0 |
| 14 | Colorado | 747 | 17-0 |
| 15 | Oregon | 738 | 16-0 |
| 16 | West Virginia | 727 | 18-0 |
| 17 | Virginia Tech | 637 | 18-0 |
| 18 | Texas A&M | 624 | 18-0 |
| 19 | Southern Cal | 482 | 21-0 |
| 20 | Akron | 440 | 22-0 |
| 21 | Missouri | 398 | 23-0 |
| 22 | Notre Dame | 377 | 23-0 |
| 23 | N. Carolina St. | 292 | 2-0 |
| 24 | Syracuse | 169 | 1-1 |
| 25 | Tulane | 164 | 1-1 |

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סוכן מלאכה

Inside

Maccabi
faces
Manresa

Page 18

Sports Editors

Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Banin may
yet play
against
San Marino

By OFER RONEN-ABELS

Israel's national team arrived yesterday evening at the Republic of San Marino ahead of their European Championship qualifying game on Saturday night.

Tal Banin, who hasn't been involved with the national side through injury and suspension since his last appearance against Bulgaria, was accompanied by Brescia's doctor to complete the 20-man squad. There is still a chance that Banin will take some part in the action.

Bursaspor's striker Ronen Harazi has apparently agreed with coach Shimon Scharf to stay in Israel and receive treatment for his aggravated thigh strain, and is expected to be included in the squad to face Spain after all.

Israel's opposition, whose only professional member of the squad plays for a third division side in Italy, will start their preparations for the game today.

Wells, Yanks freeze out Indians 7-2

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The New York Yankees scored five runs in the first inning before the chill of the autumn night set in and David Wells froze the Cleveland Indians for a 7-2 victory in Game 1 of their American League Championship series on Tuesday.

Wells, the swashbuckling "Boomer" who threw a perfect game in the regular season, struck out seven, walked just one and allowed only a widely spaced quartet of singles before Manny Ramirez's two-run homer with one out in the ninth.

Yankee catcher Jorge Posada homered and drove in two runs with two hits and American League batting champion Bernie Williams also had two hits and two RBIs.

The Yankees batted around in the first inning, driving Cleveland right-hander Jaret Wright from the game.

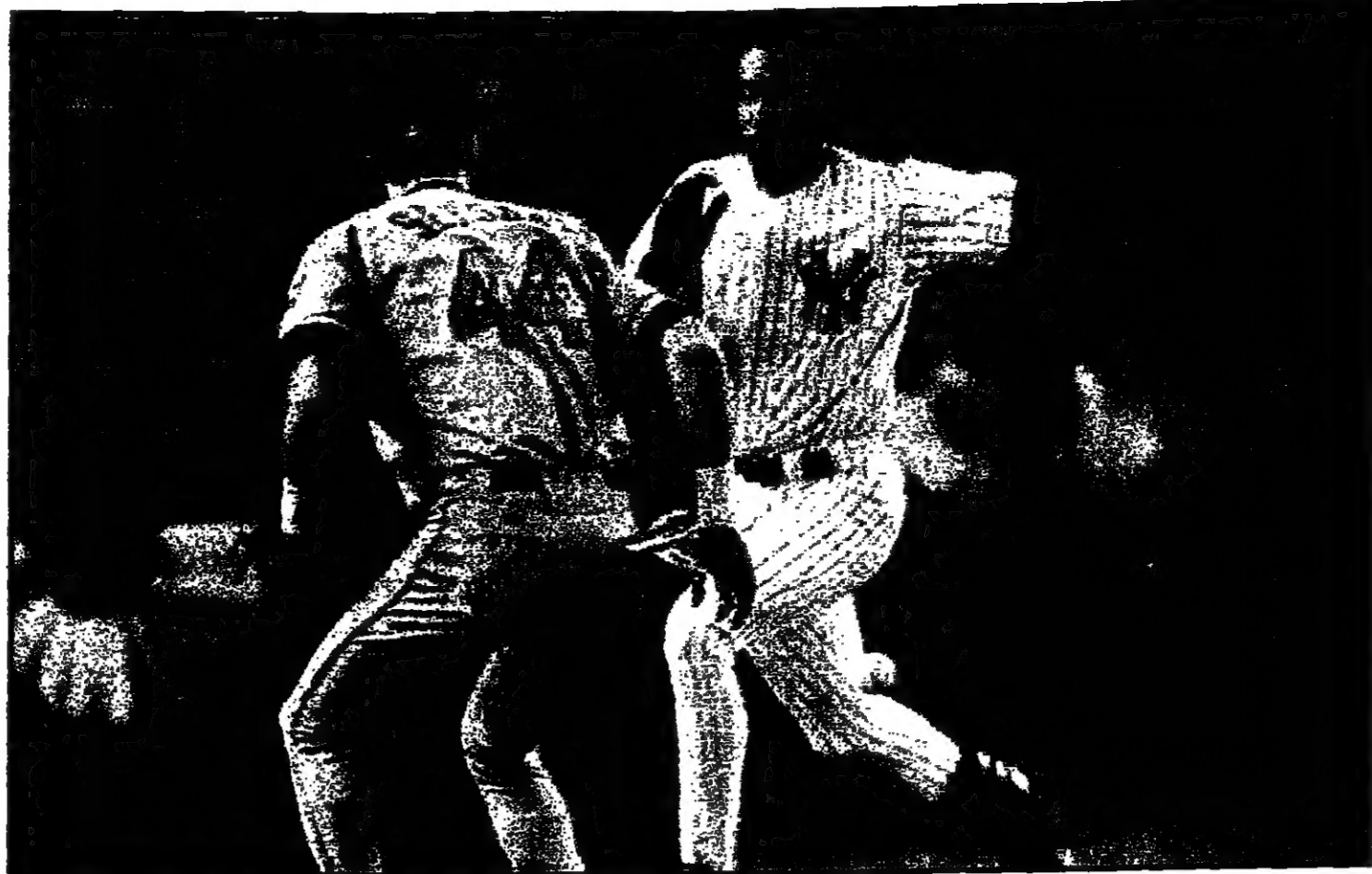
Chuck Knoblauch, Derek Jeter and Paul O'Neill all singled before the Indians had recorded an out, and Cleveland coach Mike Hargrove brought in Chad Ogea with two outs.

O'Neill, Williams, Posada and Scott Brosius each got an RBI in the inning, and another run scored on a Wright wild pitch.

Wright also had first-inning troubles in his previous start this postseason. In Game 1 of the division series against the Boston Red Sox, he gave up a three-run homer to Mo Vaughn in the opening inning and wound up the losing pitcher after yielding six earned runs in just 4 1/3 innings.

Posada led off the bottom of the sixth with a line-drive home run just inside the right-field foul pole off Ogea to make it 6-0. It was New York's first hit since Jeter led off the second with a single.

Wells got in a jam in the seventh when David Justice led off with a line single to left. Two outs later, home plate umpire Jim Evans said Jim Thome was hit by a pitch,



COMING THROUGH - New York's Bernie Williams races to first on a foul. Cleveland's first baseman Richie Sexson looks on. (Reuters)

despite protests from Wells and New York manager Joe Torre, who argued the pitch had actually hit Thome's bat for a ground out on a weak roller.

That seemed to rattle Wells, and he gave up three straight balls - as the crowd chanted "Let's go Boomer" - to Richie Sexson before getting a called strike. Sexson fouled off two more pitches before going down swinging.

The Yanks added their final run in the bottom of the seventh. O'Neill led off with a double and Williams, on a 3-0 count, hit a one-hopper to the left-center wall

for a double that made it 7-0.

After a routine eighth inning for Wells, the crowd roared its approval when the left-hander came out to pitch the ninth to try for a complete-game shutout. But he gave up a leadoff single to Joey Cora and one out later yielded Ramirez's upper-deck shot just inside the left-field foul line.

Jeff Nelson came on and got the last two outs.

Cleveland 000 000 000-2 5 0
New York 700 100-7 11 8
J. Wright (1), Posada (7), S. Brosius (7), S. Williams (6), Ramirez (5), J. Posada (4), J. Thome (3), J. Wells (1), J. Wells (1).

ALCS

New York leads series 1-0
Tuesday: New York 7, Cleveland 2
Last night: Cleveland (Nagy 15-10) at New York (Cone 20-7)
Friday: New York (Petitte 16-11) at Cleveland (Colon 14-9)
Saturday: New York (Hernandez 12-4) at Cleveland (Gooden 8-6)
Sunday: New York at Cleveland, if necessary
Tuesday: Cleveland at New York, if necessary
Wednesday: Cleveland at New York, if necessary

NLCS

Last night: San Diego (Ashby 17-9) at Atlanta (Smoltz 17-3)
Today: San Diego (Brown 18-7) at Atlanta (Glavin 20-6)
Saturday: Atlanta (Madux 18-9) at San Diego (Hitchcock 9-7)
Sunday: Atlanta at San Diego
Monday: Atlanta at San Diego, if necessary
Wednesday: San Diego at Atlanta, if necessary
Thursday: San Diego at Atlanta, if necessary

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL - Last night's results, Saporta Cup: Hapoel Jerusalem 61, Beza Sarjevo 59. Korac Cup: Ruzic Chidok (Bosnia) 74, Maccabi Ra'anana 67; Galil Elyon 97, Lovochan Citizla (Yugoslavia) 90.

West Ham blasted for 'hiding' Berkovic kicking

By MARK RIVLIN

The Football Association announced that it is making a formal request to see a videotape of last week's incident between Eyal Berkovic and John Hartson at the West Ham United training ground

in Chadwell Heath, Essex. The scene of Hartson kicking Berkovic full in the face was captured on video by an unnamed person watching the training session and is now in the possession of Sky TV. The videotape has not been released in England.

Tuesday's tabloid sports pages led with the story with the *Mirror* splashing front and back page color close-ups of the infamous kick. The *Mirror*'s chief football writer Harry Harris, who broke the story, and who has seen the videotape, told the *Jerusalem Post* it was the worst violence he had ever encountered in football.

"The stills we have shown in the *Mirror* today do not portray the horrendous nature of the incident. If Hartson had done anything like that in the street he would be facing a possible prison sentence."

Harris further believes that West Ham's response to the incident has exacerbated the situation. "They tried to cover up the incident for a few days, but in doing so have made a tactical error."

On Berkovic's position at the club, Harris, who broke a story this time last year saying the player was looking for a move, believes Berkovic would probably have been looking to leave West Ham. "He's a talented player who is looking for a top-three club. I can't see Berkovic and Hartson playing together after this."

Despite the photographic evidence of Hartson's violent outburst, his agent Johnathan Barnett told BBC Radio that Berkovic should also be disciplined.

"As far as John was concerned the matter was closed. John had telephoned Eyal and apologized, it

was not appropriate for Eyal to then talk to a newspaper for money," Barnett said.

West Ham's managing director Peter Storrer spent much of yesterday in a PR damage-control exercise, trying to play down the media hype. Storrer told BBC Radio that the club were "not finished with the pair."

Storrer was also surprised that the incident had resurfaced in the media after Hartson's apology last week. "We fined John (Hartson) two week's wages, he apologized, and even Eyal came in and spoke with (West Ham manager) Harry Redknapp and said the club should not fine John. The next thing I know it's blown up again."

Ori Lewis adds: Berkovic said he may not return to West Ham because of the incident.

"I am currently considering my future with West Ham," he wrote in his *Ma'ariv* column on Tuesday. The paper's banner headline was emblazoned with a quote from Berkovic which read: "If my head had been a ball, it would have whizzed right into the stanchions from his kick. I lay on the ground for 10 minutes with lots of blood gushing."

He claimed the club failed to act after the attack.

"Hartson is not the only one I am angry with. I think the West Ham management behaved very badly... They saw what had happened on the pitch but failed to do anything. No suspension, no fine, nothing."

Berkovic said he was trying to concentrate solely on Israel's forthcoming European championship group six qualifiers with San Marino and Spain, but that it was not easy given that "the incident at West Ham is hanging over me and is troubling me."

No UEFA
Cup final
for Ramat
Gan

By ORI LEWIS

UEFA yesterday reneged on its promise to give Israel a 50th birthday present by failing to award the staging of a European cup final, as had been promised early last year.

Israel Football Association chief executive Ya'akov Erel announced last February that the National Stadium at Ramat Gan would be named as host of the UEFA Cup final to be played on May 12 next year. Yesterday, however, the UEFA stadiums committee did not even consider Ramat Gan's candidacy, naming Moscow as host city for that final instead.

The National Stadium had met the criteria for hosting a major European final and the two comments made by the UEFA official who inspected the ground several weeks ago were due to be rectified well in advance of the match.

UEFA had asked for all the perimeter fencing to be removed and for a closed circuit TV system to be installed. The IFA had promised to comply with these requirements.

Strangely, Erel, who is a member of UEFA's stadiums committee (the body which decides if a venue is fit to host major fixtures), decided to stay away from the meeting in Lisbon where the venues were named yesterday. Erel claimed that he had been asked by IFA chairman Gavriel Levy to stay at home in order to complete arrangements for the Israel-Spain match next Wednesday.

It appears much more likely, however, that Erel knew what the UEFA decision would be and stayed away in protest. He was in his office yesterday but refused to comment directly on the matter.

Barcelona,
Moscow,
Birmingham
to host
Euro finals

LISBON (Reuters) - Barcelona were given the chance to cap their centenary year in grand style yesterday when UEFA announced this season's European Cup Final will be played at the Nou Camp Stadium.

Barcelona, one of three Spanish representatives in the Champions' League, could be crowned European champions on May 26 in the first European Cup Final to be held at the Nou Camp since Milan defeated Steaua Bucharest 4-0 in 1989.

The UEFA Cup, which last year became a one-off final rather than a two-legged affair, will be played in the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow on May 12. The European Cup Winners' Cup Final will be staged at Birmingham's Villa Park, England, on May 19.

The only other occasion on which a European final was played on a neutral ground in eastern Europe was the 1973 European Cup final between Ajax Amsterdam and Juventus, staged in Belgrade.

Three match at Villa Park will be the first European final to be staged in England on a neutral ground other than Wembley.

Thomas Kurth, head of UEFA's Competitions department explained: "The English Football Association submitted Villa Park as their choice as construction work at both Wembley Stadium and Old Trafford ruled out those two grounds. Villa Park won the vote to stage the game over the Parken Stadium in Copenhagen."

The Nou Camp stadium has a seating capacity of 92,000 and has staged four major finals, including the 1982 European Cup Winners' Cup Final in which Barcelona beat Standard Liege in front of the only 100,000 crowd in that competition's history.

It also staged the 1972 Cup Winners' Cup final when Rangers defeated Dynamo Moscow and the 1992 Olympic final in which Spain defeated Poland.

This season's European Cup Winners' Final will be the last after UEFA's decision on Tuesday to merge that competition with an expanded UEFA Cup.

No club in the competition's 35-year history has won that cup in successive seasons. But Chelsea, who won last year in Stockholm, could do so on a rival English ground next May.

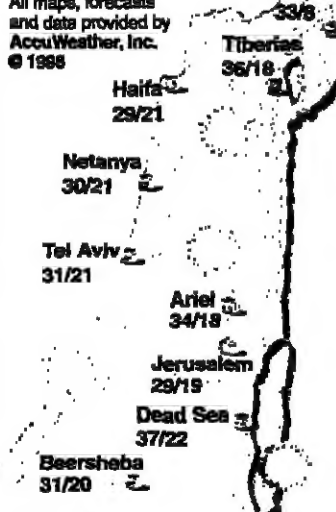
UEFA's Executive were preoccupied with the re-organization of their club competitions during two days of meetings, culminating in Tuesday's announcement that the Champions League is to be expanded from 24 to 32 teams from next season.

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THE
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ISRAEL

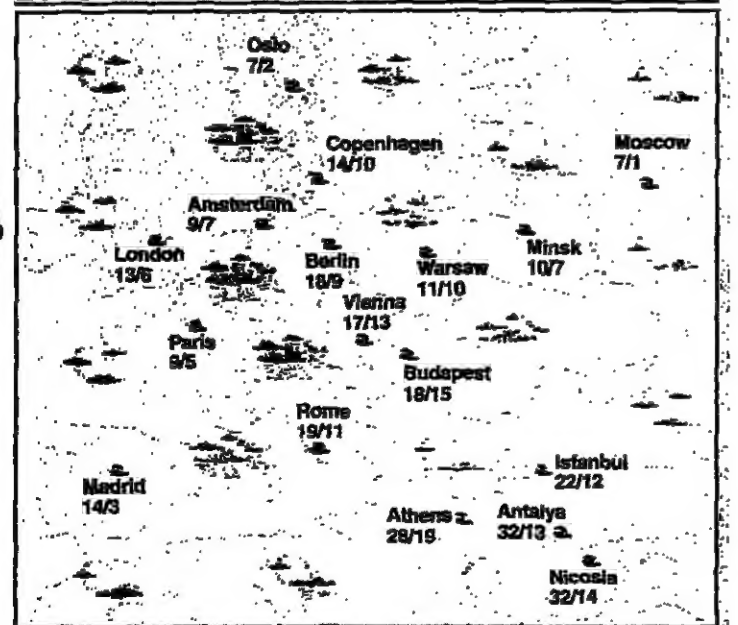
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Israel: Sunny today and tomorrow with little temperature change. High each day 26-38. Clear tonight. Lows 8-24.

Eilat 36/24

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

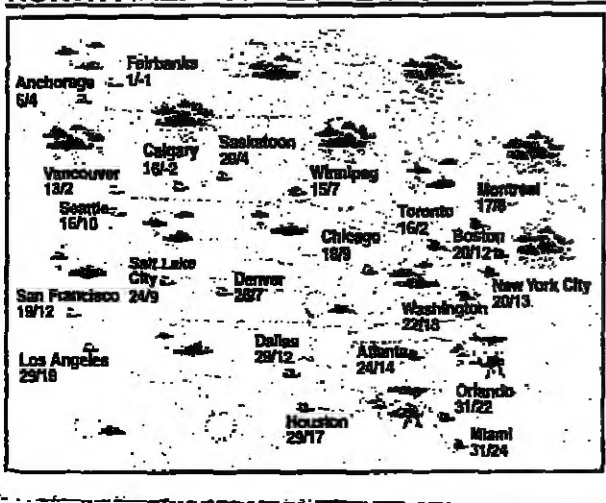
| City | Today High/Low | Friday High/Low | Saturday High/Low | Sunday High/Low |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Ariel | 34/50 | 34/50 | 34/50 | 34/50 |
| Beersheba | 31/58 | 31/58 | 31/58 | 31/58 |
| Dead Sea | 37/58 | 37/58 | 37/58 | 37/58 |
| Eilat | 36/57 | 36/57 | 36/57 | 36/57 |
| Haifa | 28/64 | 28/64 | 28/64 | 28/64 |
| Jerusalem | 28/64 | 28/64 | 28/64 | 28/64 |
| Katrin | 33/61 | 33/61 | 33/61 | 33/61 |
| Nahariya | 32/60 | 32/60 | 32/60 | 32/60 |
| Tel Aviv | 31/68 | 31/68 | 31/68 | 31/68 |
| Tzfat | 35/57 | 35/57 | 35/57 | 35/57 |

Weather (W): sunny, partly cloudy, cloudy, showers, thunderstorms, rain, drizzle, fog, snow, ice.

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

| City | Today High/Low | Friday High/Low | Saturday High/Low | Sunday High/Low |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Amsterdam | 9/15 | 9/15 | 9/15 | 9/15 |
| Beijing | 30/86 | 30/86 | 30/86 | 30/86 |
| Berlin | 18/64 | 18/64 | 18/64 | 18/64 |
| Brussels | 8/46 | 8/46 | 8/46 | 8/46 |
| Calcutta | 32/88 | 32/88 | 32/88 | 32/88 |
| Chicago | 18/64 | 18/64 | 18/64 | 18/64 |
| Frankfurt | 18/64 | 18/64 | 18/64 | 18/64 |
| Hong Kong | 30/86 | 30/86 | 30/86 | 30/86 |
| Johannesburg | 18/64 | 18/64 | 18/64 | 18/64 |
| London | 13/55 | 13/55 | 13/55 | 13/55 |
| Los Angeles | 23/84 | 23/84 | 23/84 | 23/84 |
| Madrid | 14/57 | 14/57 | 14/57 | 14/57 |
| Mexico City | 22/71 | 22/71 | 22/71 | 22/71 |
| Montreal | 17/52 | 17/52 | 17/52 | 17/52 |
| Moscow | 7/44 | 7/44 | 7/44 | 7/44 |
| New York | 20/58 | 20/58 | 20/58 | 20/58 |
| Paris | 9/48 | 9/48 | 9/48 | 9/48 |
| Peking | 16/61 | 16/61 | 16/61 | 16/61 |
| Rio de Janeiro | 25/77 | 25/77 | 25/77 | 25/77 |
| Rome | 19/66 | 19/66 | 19/66 | 19/66 |
| Sydney | 17/62 | 17/62 | 17/62 | 17/62 |
| Tokyo | 20/58 | 20/58 | 20/58 | 20/58 |
| Toronto | 17/52 | 17/52 | 17/52 | 17/52 |
| Vancouver | 11/52 | 11/52 | 11/52 | 11/52 |
| Washington | 22/71 | 22/71 | 22/71 | 22/71 |
| Zurich | 9/48 | 9/48 | 9/48 | 9/48 |

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



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